

THE
Worthy tract of
Paulus Iouius, contayning a
Discourse of rare inuentions, both
Militarie and Amorous
called Imprese.

*Whereunto is added a Preface contay-
ning the Arte of composing them, with
many other notable deuises.*

*By Samuell Daniell late Student
in Oxenforde.*



AT LONDON,
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1585.

Worthy tract of

Augustinus, containing

Discourses of various nature

and the most

valuable

in the world

being the Art of

living well

By Samuel Daniel

in

1619

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TO THE RIGHT
WORSHIPFUL SIR EDWARD

Dimmock, Chanipion to her Maiestie,

SAMVEL DANIEL wisheth

happie health with increase
of Worship.



*He unskilfull Statua-
rie wanting the two
principall instruments
of his science, iudge-
ment, and art: hauing
rudely fashioned the
forme of either some
Apollo or Cupid, &
waighing therewithal,
the basenes of his simple worke: by good aduise e-
recteth the same on the sommitie of some high Pil-
ler, to the end that both the errors therein commit-
ted, may escape the narrow vewe of the captious, &
likewise shadow all imperfections which might dis-
like the curious, both which he auoydeth by the di-
stance of his loftie mounted statue, escaping there-
by the staine of reproofe. In like maner right wor-
shipfull, haue I aduētured to place these my unpoli-
shed labors on the Piller of your Worthines, crauing
the supportance of your fauorable protection. Whose*

worthy name and Martial title being enstamped in
their forehead, shal adorne them with a sufficiēt or-
namēt to passe the vewe without reprehension. And
if herein I shall any way satisfie the delight of the
studious Gentlemen, you alone are to receiue the
guerdon of their fauorable voyces, whose offered
courtesie hath enforced me to vnder take the tillage
of so hard a soyle, to make you a present of the first
fruites thereof: which if they are not such as your
vertues deserue or my affection desires, yet spring
they from the ground of a willing minde. Solon or-
dayned that the Sacrifices offered to the Goddes,
should bee of as little cost as might bee, to the ende
that great expences might not hinder religion, say-
ing: the Goddes did onely accept the willing heart
respecting the pietie of the giuer, without waighing
the largenesse of the gift. And I hope my small Sa-
crifice, proceeding from deuotion, shall be ac-
cepted on the Altier of your courtesie.

To whom he Wissheth all happie
felicitie, who remayneth al-
waies yours at com-
maunde.

Samuel Daniell.



TO HIS GOOD
FRIEND SAMVEL DANIEL,
N. W. Witheth health.



Knowe not whether to excuse your nature (good M. DANIEL) or blame your shamefastnesse, which so much laboreth (as the vter enemy of your good name) to defraude your labors of their deserued Lawrell, & in despight of arte to deprive vs of so delicate inuétions, which the best wits in *Europe* haue dedicated to posteritie: wherein surely, you iniurie your countrey men publikely, vnnaturally your friends, and vnaduisedly your selfe. But what can you pretend? The seueritie of Censors, the nice delicatenes of Courtiers, or the grauetie of Philosophers? What Philosophy taught you that? That which is currant may abyde the touch, the yong *Aeglet's* dare looke vpon the Sunne, and that which is eloquently polished may abyde the presse. Why then may not your *Iouins* looke any man in the face, hauing arte to direct him, authoritie to defend him, all humanitie to pleade for him. If you misdoubt his grace in the Vniuersitie,

the Muses will giue him their voyces, if the suffrages of the holy virgins in the Courte, they are *Graces* themselves. If onely the multitude *Odi profanum vulgus & arceo*. For I suppose you remember the olde prouerbs: that it is great trouble to make a Couche for a dogge, for that turning himselfe so variably, no man knoweth where to place the Pillowe: and so mutable and vñconstant is the multitude, that it is not for a wise man to indeuour to feede their humour or fit their fancies. Yet doe not thinke that euery prudent reader is like to wanton Mistresse *Amilia*, who would ordinarily flout the first line she read: or to curious *Gonzaga*, surnamed the Carper, who no sooner heard a pretie inuention, but would recompence it with his gentell girkes: Or to *Theodorus* scollers, which receiued euery thing with their left hand, which their master gaue with the right, or to the *Hidropicus*, who hauing no iudgement of tastes, yet neuer liketh any sawce, and cōdemneth all Cookes. Therefore I would wish you as your frende, neuer to smotther so sweete inuentions, for feare of Censors, who in words perhaps will debase it, which in deede they conceiue not, and controll that they cannot amende, neyther following the counsell of the wise, nor the example of the vertuous.

There is another point in your last letter, wherein you seeme to marre al that you haue made,

made, and dash that which so cunningly was deuised. For sooth you blush to open another mans shop, and sell *Italian* wares as though you were a Bankrupt in philosophie, and could not afforde any pritie conceipt without borrowing or embeselling. I pray you Syr, shal *Castilio* be more reuerenced for his courtier, then *D. Clarke* admired for inuesting him with so courtlie robes? shall *Menander* be eternized for his *Comedies*, and *Terence* forgot who gaue them credit: Shall *Lambin*, *Cardan*, and *Scaliger*, and the most excellent Secretaries of nature, *Plinie*, *Matthiolus* & *Tolet*, shall they be lesse reuereced, for perfecting knowledge, the the old Philosophers for a shadowed inuention? shal the witte and capacitie of antiquitie sit in her throne, and disposition & iudgement of posteritie keepe the dore: no reason, the one deuised, the other disposed. *Jonius* therefore is bound vnto you, both for absolving and blazing his inuētions abroad in this famous Iland, and wee are beholding vnto you for reuealing them to vs: wherein truely both arte in translating, & knowledge in iudging, iustly may chalēge their fees. You cannot forget that which *Nolanus* (that man of infinite titles among other phantastlicall toyes) rruely noted by chaunce in our Schooles, that by the helpe of translations, al Sciences had their offspring, and in my iudgement it is true. The *Hebrewes* hatched knowledge,

Greece did nourish it, *Italie* clothed and beautified it, & the artes which were left as wards in their minoritie to the people of *Rome*, by Translators as most carefull Gardiners, are now deduced to perfect age and ripenesse. Cōcerning the nakednes of your stile (which troubleth you without the colours or florish of *Rhetorique*) *Tullie* commendeth it, al Translators approue it: and no man maketh so much accōpt of the glosse as of the substance: of the gay *Iunie* bush as of the wine: Neither could it preiudice you at all (if it were naked as in deede it is pure) because you haue not done it as the *Sybarite*, that bad their guesstes a whole yere before the feast, to make some expectation of a sumptuous banquet. A toye would require all brauerie: Vanitie all ornaments, and an Assie had neede of all his trappings. But your argument is such as can both moue and delight, tickle the eare and satisfie the minde. And our time also hath learned to lothe that od riming vaine, and to persecute the letter is cleane out of fashion, which begon by a bad portraiture of wit, and is ended by a ripe direction of iudgement. But why doe I rather aunswere the capcious, then satisfie the graue and modest, who at the first vewe (I dare presume vpon their wisdome) will subscribe to the supremacie of the wit of your newe Science. For if Courtiers are inwardly rauished in vewing the Picture of *Fia-*

metta

metta which *Boccace* limned. If Ladies entertaine *Bandel* or *Ariosto* in their Closets. If Louers imbrace their Philition *Ouid* in extremitie of their passion: then will Gentlemen of all tribes, much rather honor your *Impresa*, as a most rare Jewell, and delicate *Enchiridion*. For there is not published a flourish vpon fancie, or *Tarletons* toyes, or the sillie Enterlude of *Diogenes*: You professe not *Artem iocandi* or *Potadi*. You discourse not of *Apuleius* Asses: You trifle not as *Cornelius* the *Brabantine*, who published an *Encomion* of *Tuftmockados*: But you present vs an order to frame *Denises*, in shew glorious, in forme plain, in title straunge: the which is so much the more to bee esteemed, being deriued frō the most pure springs *Lucas Contile*, and *Ruscelli*, whom I cannot name without some Preface to their commendation. What should I recount *Dominicus* and *Alciat*, with whom you seeme to haue beene very familiarly acquainted, which addeth much credite to your woorke, and notably hath giuen light to your studies. But concerning the arte of *Imprese*, I neede not draw the petigree of it, sith it is knowne that it descended from the auncient *Egiptians*, and *Chaldeans*, in the Schoole of *Memphis*: who deuised meanes before Charecters were founde out, to vtter their conceiptes by formes of Beastes, Starres, Hearbes, (as you haue declared) and these notes were called *ιερογλυφικα*

i. sacra

Anno. 1581.

Αντιπελαργία.

3. sacra nota. This Philosophie was increased by *Orus Niliacus*, and *Pythagoras*: & was more plainly reuealed by *Clemens*, *Pausanias*, *Athenius*: & in this last age reuiued by *Pierius Valerian*. But to what end serued this? to shadow suerly their purposes and intents by figures. So counsayled *Plato*: So practised the first parents of Philosophie. As by the picture of a Stork they signified *Αντιπελαργία*. By a Serpent pollicie. By an Oliue peace. By a Gate lust: drawing these Charecters frō the world, as from a volume wherein was written the wonders of nature. Thus was the first foundations layd of *Imprese*: From hence were deriued by succession of pregnant wittes *Stemmata* Coates of Armes, *Insignia* Ensignes, and the olde Images which the *Romaines* vsed as witnesses of their Auncestors, *Emblemes* and *Deuises*. Then what was the intēt of these Ensignes and *Deuises*? What cause can bee pretended for them? What did they import? *Iamblicus* saith that they were conceiptes, by an externall forme representing an inward purpose: So *Fergusus* the first Scottishe King did beare in his Standard a *Lion geules*, to bewray his courage testifie his stomacke, and dismaie his aduersarie, which being well marshalled, is borne for the atchiuement of the Kinges euer since. So did the *Athenians* beare their Owle: the *Thebans* their *Sphinx*: the *Switzers* their Beare. But among all inuentions, sur-
passe

pasſe for witt & art y^eur *Impreſe*: neither leſſe
renowmed then the *Inſignes*, nor leſſe heroi-
call then the Armes called by *Paratim Sym-
bola Heroica*, by *Simeon deuifes illuſtra*. *Minoes*
a man otherwiſe excellently qualified in all
humanitie, ſemeth neither perfectly to define
Impreſes, nor artifiſially to diſtinguiſhe them
from *Emblemes*. The ſole worde *Symbolum* e-
uery way is to large and generall a terme for
them, ἐξ οὗ ἐστιν καὶ μᾶλλον συμβαλλαν καὶ γράμματα,
that note by which we know or caⁿ coiecture
any thing, is *Symbolum*.] Now in this ſcope and
generallitie, how is it reſtrayned, how doth
he meaſure and fit that word for *Impreſe*? Su-
mitur hic *Symbolum* pro argument^o ſeu nota qua
quod piam occultatur, ſed doctis auribus intelligē-
dum proponitur. There is great odds (my good
freend) betwixt this adumbra tion and your
ſubſtantial definition. If we reſpect the forme
it is lame, and why ſo? becauſe there is no pro-
per difference to ſupporte it. And this is an
infallible ground: for ſeeing it comprehen-
deth all the former, *Standards*, *Litrees* & *Ar-
mes*, it is rather an vniuerſall note then a ſpe-
ciall *Idea*: if we regarde the circumſtaunces, it
is very ſuperficiall: if the final ende, confuſed.
Now to come to the difference of *Emblemes*,
and *Impreſes*, what ſubtilitie doth he ſhewe in
it? *Symbolum* eſt genus, *Emblema* ſpecies: This
motion is to vniuerſall, rather tending to de-
ſcribe the genus then to define the ſpecies: but
the

the difference must be : borrowed, from the
properties: and because this is a case worthie
to be demurred, let vs consult more curious-
ly with our artistes, let vs conferre with our
professors, what distinction maketh *Ionius*? I
must excuse him as *Trebian* did a certain Poet,
Plus est in arte quam in artifice. For as *Minos*
iudgeth of him, *Art em hanc incheauit potius
quam perficit*. But in deed these two conceipts
are allied by so greare affinitye, their intents
and pictures so vniforme, and consonant: that
without sharpe insight wee cannot discypher
their difference. *Emblema* is deriued of εμ-
βαλλειν. *in* terponere, inferere: quicquid interseri-
tur ornatus gratia, whether the inuention bee
embrodered in garments grauen in stone,
enchased in golde, wrought in Arras: and in
my opinion there is great *imparitie* betweene
them, both in body and soule. They are dis-
tingued by sonderie Cognisances, established by
reason and confirmed by reading, and may
bee authorised by experience. The mot of an
Impresa may not exceede three wordes. *Em-
blems* are interpreted by many verses. An *Im-
presa* is not garnished with many different I-
mages, *Emblemes* are not limited. In *Deuises*
it is enacted that the figure without the mot
or the mot without the figure should not in-
terprete the Authors meaning. In *Emblems* is
more libertie and fewer lawes. *Impreses* mani-
fest the special purpose of Gentlemen in war-
like

like combats or chamber tournaments. *Em-
blems* are generall conceiptes rather of moral
matters then particulare deliberations: ra-
ther to giue credit to the wit, then to reueale
the secretes of the minde. What should I say
more. This *Impresa*, is that perfect *Symbolum*:
for antiquitie to bee reuerenced: for worthi-
nesse admired: for pleasure embraced. Par-
don me (I pray you) if I rainge a little & chase
a discourse in this so wide a Forrest: let me re-
corde some monument of the olde Registers
of Greece.

Agamemnon Soueraigne at the seige of
Troy, bare in his sheild a *Lion* saliant, with
this mot OUT Θ $\mu\epsilon\pi$ $\Phi\acute{o}\epsilon\Theta$ $\epsilon\varsigma$ λ $\beta\epsilon\sigma\tau$ $\omega\mu$. *Am-
phitruo* being encamped against the *Thebans*,
caused to be portrayed vpon his *Target*. *Cum
quadrigris sol exoriens*, and breathed life into
that body by this soule, *In arduo laurus*. *Arre-
temesia* to testifie her selfe a loyal wife to her
Lorde and King wore in her Tab. let an *Elio-
tropium*, rising and falling with the Sunne, ad-
ding this mot, *Persoluet vota pietas*, which was
verified, for she enterred the ashes of her slain
husband, in no other Tombe then in her
owne body, so that death could scarce di-
uorse them. But let vs come nigher hande.
Vascus Gama being diswaded from the *Indian*
voyage (neuer before attempted) erected a
globe elumined with Starres, vpon a pillar of
golde, with this sentence *Undique par: respe-
cting*

The tree of
good and ill.

Tu ne cede
malis sed cō-
tra audētius.

Etting the auncient verse . *Vndique ad superos
tantundem est via*. Haue: not our Printers also
of late honored this profession? Haue they
not bene at emulation for ingenious *Denises*.
Stephen glorieth in his tree, and moderateth
those (that loue to moue by loftie witts) with
this Posie: *Noli altum sapere. Plantin* beareth
a compasse in a hande stretched out of the
cloudes which measureth all, *Constantia & la-
bore*. I will omit *Griphius Episcopus*: I will for-
get all artificers, who commonly buy such in-
ventions at the second hand. I will not med-
dle with Courtiers, I will passe ouer the
known *Impreses* of *Moore* and *Cromwell*, a
payre royall of nobles. And now I will bring
you to Church. A certain English Prelate, de-
uised a Lambe in a thorne bush, pitifully in-
flamed, yet casting his eyes cherefully vppon
the Sunne with this mot. *Ne cede*. Tell me
how you like this *Heroycall Impresa* of *Curtius
Gonzaga*. An *Egle* flying on high against the
Sunne, with this word *pur che*, a parte of that
verse of *Petrarche*. *Pur che ne godan gli orchii, ar-
dan le piume*. For that which delighteth my
eyes burneth my fethers. A frend of mine,
whom you know, M. P. climbing for an *Egles*
nest, but defeated by the mallalent of fortune,
limned in his studie a *Pine* tree stricken with
lightning, carying this mot. *Il mio sperar*,
which was borrowed also from *Petrarch*. *Allor
che fulminato e morto giacque il mio sperar che
tropp*.

tropp' alto mintana. Yet in despite of fortune My hope
he deuised also a Pinnacle or small Barke, tof-
sed with tempestious stormes, and in the saile
was written *expectanda dies*, hoping as I think
for one Sunne shine day to recompence so
many glomy and winter monethes. Therefore
now to conclude, seeing your argument is
plausible, the arte a noueltie, your first fruites
ripe what reason is there, why you should pri-
uatly bestowe them of some one gentleman:
especially cōsidering that you can please him
no way better, then to pleasure his countrey
mé. For who doth not know M. *Dimmock*, to
be a gentleman by famely worshipfull, by loy-
altie vnspotted, by office the Princes Cham-
pion: so also by curtesie worthy the Chro-
nicle? what neede you thé to feare the mallice
of the weakest enemy that may bee a carping
tongue, hauing him for the Champiō of your
booke, whom her Maiestie hath vouchsafed
the Champion of her person, or why feare
you least our old *Academicks* improue your
art for a toy, seeing that wisdom is not in-
corporated to Nightcaps, neither must wee
depend vpon the verдите of some conceled
Philosophers.

Thus am I bold to animate and encourage
you to your credite, which if I haue done to
long, so vppon occasion did *Tullio Plato*, *Seneca*:
if rudely ascribe it to simplicitie, if sleight-
ly to the rarenes of your arte: if to copiously
to

to a feruent desire : for seeing that *in verbis*
est aliquod premium , I had rather shewe
my selfe to prodigall to my friends,
then a snudge: which when you
haue read , fier it. From
Oxenford the xx. of
Nouember.

Tours, N. W.

TO
of the weakest enemy that may see a carrying
tongue, having him for the Champion of your
booke, whom her Maiestie hath vouchsafed
the Champion of her person, or why feare
you least our old *Adversary* improve your
sight for a toy, seeing that wildom is not in-
corporated to Nightcaps, neither shall wee
depend upon the verdict of some conuoluted
Philosophers.

Thus am I bold to animate and encourage
you to your credit, which if I haue done to
long, so upon occasion did I the same, I
can hardly ascribe it to simplicity if I ascribe
it to the talent of your art: it is copiously
to

TO THE FREND-
LY READER.



Thought it good (right
worshipfull and curte-
ous gentlemen) to com-
municate with you this
delightsome tract of
strange deuises, barely
clothed in an English
habite, voyde of al such
ornaments as are due

unto the worthines thereof: presuming upon your
wisdomes, who had rather gather a pleasant flower
springing amongst the sharpe thornes, for the sweet
sauour, then a gay colored weede for all the fayre
semblance: esteeming the value of the precious
treasure not by the outward shewe, but the inward
substance, sith often we finde by triall meliora la-
tere, and faire shewes to proue often fond shadowes.
The tree Caliestephenon in Palestine, hath a
corrupt barke, but a pure body: And well may a
gallant blossome fit the humour of a delicate eye,
when the gaynfull fruite shall satisfie the sauour of
a discret taste. But the Diamant hath ingendred
a naturall forme, so that it neede no artificiaall
frame; a gay glosse may better besee me a course

Aj.

Kersey;

To the Reader.

Kersey, then a fine Skarlet. My weake commendations of these notable and rare inuentions, may rather eclipse their credit, then purchase their fame, therefore I referre them to the censure of your considerate readers, for whose better vnderstand of the Imprese of Paulus Iouius (who in many places haue erred from the common receiued precepts) I haue gathered into a certayne order the way of framing and composing all such kindes of deuises both militarie and amorous used at this day of the noble gentlemen of Europe, in adorning their glorious triumphes, or declaring their inward pretended purposes and enterprises, not by speech or any apparent maner, but shadowed vnder a certayne wayle of formes or figures in such sort as shall hereafter be declared. And although that to signifie our intentions by these formes or figures, of creatures, be not a thing more notable then speech or writing, which perfectly doe manifest any operation, whereas the other doth doubtfully discover our pretences. Yet I say, that to represent vnto the sence of sight the forme or figure of any thing, is more natural in act, & more comon to al creatures then is hearing, and thereupon sayth Aristotle, that we loue the sence of seeing, for that by it we are taught and made to learne more then by any other of our senses, whereby we see that all men naturally take delight in pictures, and euen litle children as soone as they can vse their hands at libertie, goe with a Cole to the wall, induoring to drawe the forme of this thing or that. This naturall disposition hath
rained

To the Reader.

reigned generally euen from the beginning when the worde was but yet new, and induced nations first to figure beasts, plants, trees, celestiall signes, and such like, obseruing the nature and qualitie of euery creature represented by their figures, whereby in time they became able to shewe their intent to their friends and others vayled vnder the forme of these creatures, in which facultie the Egyptians were most singulare as the first authors of this Hieroglyphicall art: as well do witnessse their sacred Colomnes dedicated to Mercurie, whereon were diuers formes and pictures wrought and engrauen, contayning great knowledge, which they called Hieroglyphi, To the which pillers Plato is sayde to haue gone and retourned with great profit. Yet notwithstanding, in my opinion their deuise was vnperfect, by reason of the diuersitie of the natures of beastes and other things which they figured. Whereupon they who drewe more neere vnto our time seemeth to haue brought this art to perfection, by adding mots or posies to their figures. Whereby they couertly disclose their intent by a more perfect order. Moreover besides the figuring of things corporall and of visible forme, men haue also represented things incorporal, which they could not doe more fitly then by colours, as representing sorowe by blacke, desire to shed bloud by red, puritie by white, &c. And now sith time hath brought to perfection many notable deuises, which rude antiquitie could not discerne: Let vs consider by howe many wayes we may discouer our secret intentions

Aij.

by

To the Reader.

by colours and figures, as first by Liurees, secondly by Ensignes, thirdly by mots, and lastly by Imprese, of which foure kindes of Deuises, I purpose to set downe distinctly in fewe words their significations and properties, according to the opinion of the best authors which euer haue written of this matter.

This worde Liuree is borrowed of the Spanishe, which they write with, *b librea*, but pronounce it as written with *v*. Some say it had his Etemologic of *Libro*, for that Liurees are as an open booke where a man may reade the intent of him which weareth them. Some also will haue it deriued of *Libero*, and that for two reasons, the one, in that from the beginning it hath beene a profession onely of Gentlemen, and noble personages: and although that seruants do commonly weare these Liurees, yet are they not said to be their owne but their patrons. For Plutarch in the life of Solon saith, that seruantes were forbidden any free exercise. The other reason may bee, for that the Authors setting them to the common vewe, being not altogether apparent, commit them *libero iudicio*, to the free iudgement of the Interpreter. Some will haue it brought from the Latin, *Liber eram*, for that the principall purpose of Liurees haue been to shewe some amorous seruice, and for this onely intent were they first inuented at the beginning, to shewe that they which did weare them, were no more free of them selues but subiect seruantes to their Mistrisses: as who should say, *Liber eram*, I was free, but now bound: according to that of Virgil,

To the Reader.

gil, fuimus Troes.

It is said that Liurees of only colours, had their originall after this manner : that the Gentlemen which loued or rather (to speake after the Spanish or Neapolitan manner) which serued any Lady, with that amorous kinde of seruice, which is vsed in those places, were accustomed, to marke with what coloured robe their Mistrisse was inuested, to the end to decke them selues with apparell of the same colour & cut. But some supposing that to be to great a presumptiō, thought rather to addresse themselves in a habite of the same colour, as did the domesticall seruantes of their Ladie, to denouate humilitie, and shew them selues readie for any seruice commaunded by her soueranitie : Yet now for diuers respects, in this our time the discrete Gentlemen bound to the performance of this strict Obligation of faith and secrecie, haue deuised a closer couert for their amorous conceiptes, by colours and figures in their Liurees, which are now more commonly called Deuises, in all the most flourishing Countries of Christendome : which also is not forgotten of Ariosto, in these verses following, recounting the Deuise of Bradamante, whereby she expressed her dispayre, and desire to die.

*Era la soprauestà del colore
Di ch' esser suol la foglia, che s'imbianca,
Quando dal ramo è tolta, è che l'humore
Che facea uiuo l'arbore, le manca:
Ricamata à tronconi, era di fuore*

A.ij.

Di

To the Reader.

*Di cipresso, che mai non si rinfranca
Poi ch' ha sentito la dura bipenne
L' habito al suo dolor molto conuenne.*

Thus in effect in English.

Her vpper robe of such like colour was,
As is the fading leafe of palish hew
Whē from the bowe the liuely sap doth passe
Which nourish did the stock whereon it grew
Embroidered al with braunches thick aboue,
And fading bowes of dolefull Cipresse tree:
Which cut with deadly axe doth neuer proue
This habit with her grieve did well agree.

There are first, diligently to be obserued in these
Deuises or Liurces three things: The time when:
The place where: and the maner how they are to
be vsed. Concerning the time: they are neuer worne
but either in true or fained warre, or at Iusts, Tur-
neis, Maskes, or at such like extrauagant shewes.
The place fit for them, are on armed men or Mas-
kers, worne in such place as they best like about
their persons: albeit the Helmet, the Shielde, the
Bardes, the borders of the garment, or the breast,
are the fittest places appointed for them. The ma-
ner of vsing them is diuers, according to their spe-
cies: but first generally you are to obserue this, that
they bee not too intricate in greate number, nor so
confused that they neede some Apollo to resolue
them. Perticularly it behoneth to note the deuision
of.

To the Reader.

of their species which are of al kinde of Deuises
or Liurecs sixe . The first consisteth altogether of
colours : The second of colours and figures : The
third of colours and letters : The fourth of colours
figures and letters : The fifth of figures onely : The
sixth of figures and letters . Concerning the first
colours alone, are now seldome vsed but of Mour-
ners, or such like . As for example, a certaine Gen-
tleman on a time, hauing ill successe in his amorous
seruice , and spending his time in dolor and griefe,
was aduertised that the wife of a certaine freende
of his was departed this life, whercupon it behoued
him to put on mourning apparell: and hauing occa-
sion to shewe himselfe at a feast , he clothed him in
blacke Grogren drawne out with Taffatie, & both
cut on blacke Damaske, in such sorte that the Da-
maske was best seene to bee blackest: which mour-
ning habite was no soner seene of such as knewe the
historie of his loue, but they perceiued what it sig-
nified, as well as if he himselfe had declared it: and
greatly did they commend the inuention. For with
the uppermost blacke he represented sorowe for the
dead : With that vnderneath he mourned for his
freend: but his owne blacke appeared more and sig-
nified some greater griefe, and that of his frend see-
med lesse, and represented lesse in effect. For in his
opinion lesse griefe was it to bee deprined of a wife,
such she is called to the heauens, then to stand seclu-
ded from the fauour of a proude disdainefull dame,
whilest an other enioyes the fruite of his desired
affections . But to returne to our purpose, Liurecs

To the Reader.

of onely colours, and also with colours and figures are wont to serue in effect, but for the shewe of one day, either at *Iusts*, *Masques*, or other solemne festiuall sportings, where are commonly assembled a great multitude of people: and to the end that Gentlemen and Gentlewomen (which giue the view but as they passe by, among so great a companie) may not stande to muse about the intention of the subject, there is vsed a mot to declare the meaning, & these kinde of mots pertayning to *Liurees*, are to bee composed in the same language which is there vsed where they are presented: and it is requisite they bee shorte so that they exceede not two of our verses: very rarely are they made of foure, yet so they may be if neede require. These mots so composed serue for colours alone, or els for colours accompanied with figures, or with figures alone: and when they shalbe ioyned with colours alone, yet are they called *Liuroes*, when with colours, figures and the mot, which shall exceede three wordes being manifest of it selfe and seruing for no other purpose but to declare the signification of the colours and figures, they are likewise then called *Liurees* or *Infegnes*, and as I haue before sayd, they serue onely for one day. These last properties rehearsed, that the mot may passe three wordes, and that it must be plaine and manifest, seruing onely to disclose the meaning of the colours and figures: note well, for therein consisteth the difference betweene *Liurees* and *Impreses*, which are altogether diuers. The ignorance of which distinction deceiued many in
the

To the Reader.

the composing of Impreses. And also Iouius himself in his discourses following was greatly ouersene in putting no difference betweene Impreses, Liurees, and Insegnes, as you may plainely perceiue. This worde Insegne is taken from the Latin, by the which is signified Standards, Banners, and also the Helmets of the chiefe Souldiers and Captaines, as may appeare in this verse of Virgil.

Danaumque insignia nobis.

Aptemus Clypeos, but chiefly it is now taken for Standards or Banners, which are capable of all such properties mentioned before in Liurees, as either of colours alone, as when they are all red, all white, all blacke, &c. Or when they are of seuerall colours, as white and red, or in like maner of any other. To them also may bee added mots, as many notable men haue vsed of late time: & also colours with figures, or figures alone: all in such maner as hath bene shewne in Deuises or Liurees. The Ensigne is also fit for Impreses, of the which I am hereafter to speake, and many therein set the Armes of their house: whereof to recite examples this shorte Preface will not afforde, sith ech of them seuerally require a whole volume. only suffice it, briefly that we touch them, to the end we may the better vnderstande the forme of Impreses: which before I come to handle, it is necessary that I say somewhat of Mots, which truely are of great excellencie if they bee gallantly composed. And first this word mot signifieth as much as Gnome, a shorte sentence or Posie, whose places are diuers. Some
use

To the Reader.

use to set them on gates, as that which (according to the fiction of the Poet) was set on Hell gate. *Lasciate ogni speranza voi chi intrate.* Lay aside all hope, all you which enter in.

A ridiculous mot or posie is not to be used but in some occasion of masks, or to quip an enemy, as for example, a certaine Cardinal in Rome for some offence being imprisoned, and after put to death, it was bruted abroade, that the Pope had done it to pleasure two of his Nephewes with his linings, wherupon one linely pictured the sayd Cardinall on the Crosse, and the two yong Cardinals preferred to his linings, at his feet beholding him with this Posie in their hands, *Crucifixus etiā pro nobis.* But the mots which are chiefly used, are either amorous or graue, & they beare a great grace if they be perfectly cōposed with their circūstances & properties, so that they be short, & excede not if it be possible a verse in any tongue. Yet Latin & Greeke verses of six feete are to long to be used whole, wherefore of the it is better to take a part, as nullū scelus error habebat. And better are they esteemed being take out of some famous autor. As out of Ouid, Horace, Catullus and other Latin Poets, out of Homer, Hesidus, Callimachus, or any good auther of the Greekes out of Petrarch, Deuine Ariosto, Dāte Bembo, and other famous in the Italian tōgue, & aboue all, if it be possible, let them leaue some scruple whereon to meditate, to him who either readeth or beares them, and it is lawfull to use them without figures, although that Paulus Iouius vainly termeth

To the Reader.

meth them so used, soules without bodies.

There is also another kind of Deuise called in Italian, Cifre celate, which many haue heretofore used being ignorant of Imprese, which inuention is onely for youth, and very unfit for men of grauitie, seruing the but to sport with their Ladies, by cōuaying their names into some Posie or figure, which they ware in tokē of their seruice, of this kind you shal find fit examples in Paulus Iouius, which I haue noted in the Margent. The inuention is altogether barraine, and vtterly disliked of the wise.

Thus hauing briefly touched the principall points of the former Deuises, it resteth that I say somewhat of Impreses, which is the most notable, ingenious and perfect king of all other. And first to declare the signification of the worde, with the definition, I say, that Impresa is used of the Italians for an enterprise, takē in hand with a firme & constant intēt to bring the same to effect. As if a Prince or Captaine taking in hand some enterprise of war, or any other perticulare affaire, desirous by some figure & mot to manifest to the world his intēt, this figure & mot together is called an Impresa, made to signifie an enterprise, wher at a noble mind leueling with the aime of a deepe desire, strives with a steady intēt to gaine the prise of his purpose. For the valiant & hautie gentlemen, disdayning to cōioine with the vile and base Plebeians in any rustique inuention, haue procured to theselues this one most singular, which time hath now at length perfited and rought into a more regulare order. And the chiefe places

Whercom

To the Reader.

Whereo they vse to weare these their Impreses are their Standards, Shields, Helmets, Brooches, Tablets or such like. The time when, is either in Warres, Iusts, or amorous seruices. And you are to note, that Impreses are not Hereditarie, as are Armes, for the sonne may not vse the Impresa of father, nor the successors of their ancestors, and it behoueth that they be of no other colours, saue onely blacke and white, vnesse it be rather to adorne them, then for any necessitie, and chiefly in the composing of them, are to be noted these fine properties. First, that they haue not many kinds of different formes, for at the most there can be but three, in a perfect Impresa, vnesse they be parts of the whole: as the Sunne, Moone and Starres represent onely the heauens, which may be the intent of the Impresa: or as many trees flowers and herbs, represent onely a Garden. As for example, a certayne gentleman figured a garden with Palmes, Bayes, Marigolds and Roses, with this mot. Tu hæc omnia, to signifie that his mistresse deserved the Palme for her beautie, & that she was free fro the assalt of Loue as is the Lawrell fro the wrath of the heauens, that she drew the eyes of his mind after her, as doth the Sunne the Marigolde, and that by the vertue of her comfortable looks she remained his heart, as doe the ioyful beames the blowing Rose. But now in any other case diuers formes are not to be vsed.

Secondly, the mot or posie of an Impresa may not exceede three words, vnesse it be composed of
some

To the Reader.

Some of these. Dum. Nec. Et. Non. In. Per. Aut. si. Cum. Vt. and then may it haue foure, as Nec spe nec metu.

Thirldly, that the mot be taken out of some famous author. This precept is good, but not alwayes necessarie.

Fourthly, that it be not altogether manifest nor too too obscure, neither yet triniall or common.

Fifthly, that the figure without the mot, or the mot without the figure signifie nothing; in respect of the intent of the author, and this precept is of great importance, for many ignorant hereof, haue composed Imprese altogether vayne and voyde of all inuention. As when the figure of it selfe or the mot of it selfe, suffice to declare the meaning, wherefore either the one or the other is superfluous. As he which figured a Harie in the midst of fire, with this mot, Il cuore ho in fuoco. I haue my Harie in fire, or as he which depainted a Cupid, with his Bowe & shafts, & thereunto this verse. Agli strali d'amor son fatto segno. To Cupids shafts I am ornaigned the Butte. Or not unlike to that of him in Iouius, which figured a Chimney with a great fire and smoke, with this mot. Doue è gran fuoco è gran fumo. Where there is great fire, there is great smoke, in all which the mot without the figure, or the figure without the mot, might haue serued the purpose as well. But if vnto the fire & smoke had bene added this mot, Vtrūq; simul, the Impresa had bene most perfect. The
like

To the Reader.

like defect had that of Borgia, which likewise Iouius doth mention, which was the mountayne Acroceraunii, wherunto, if in stede of ferunt summos fulgura montes had bene added Humiliora minus, or humiliora nunquam, therein had wanted no perfection. Iouius also addeth for a precept in the rules of Imprese, that in them there ought to be no humayne forme; which precept is most true, if it be in the ordinarie and simple forme of a man, for that rarenes is rather delightfom: but yet when the humaine forme shalbe in a strange & vnaccustomed maner, it beareth a great grace. As did that of Sinior Bernabo Adorno, being inamored of a noble and vertuous Lady, who often certified him both by speach and writing, that the arrowes of loue could not enter or passe farther then her gowne. Whereupon the Gentleman composed an Impresa which was a Cupid, holding in one hand the vaile of his eyes, and in the other hand an Arcobuze sciled to his brest; as if he were readie to discharge it, and thereunto this mot. Hoc peraget. To signifie that he had omitted no seruice, deuotion, or loyaltie in his pursute, which are the onely maynshotte of Loue, and are able to batter the bulwarke of a rigorous breast, and make the most flintie heart to yeeld.

Thus haue I in fewe words (gentlemen) declared the properties of a perfect Impresa, to the end your choyce therein may be currant, sith many deceiue themselves with a counterfeit. And so wishing the happie successe of all your vertuous Impreses and
godly

To the Reader.

godly pretences. I referre you to the reading of
Paulus Ionius, till time my studies shall yeeld you
a better present of the like subject.

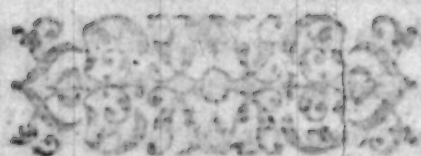
S. D.



Referred to S. J. Davis, Mayor of Boston.

To the Reader
Gentle Reader. I desire you to the reading of
Paulus letters, all that will be profitable to you
a further of the like kind.

S. P.





HERE BEGIN
THE DISCOURSES OF
PAVLVS IOVIVS BISHOP
of Nocera, in the forme of a Dia-
logue had betweene him, and
Lodonicus Dominicus.

Dedicated to S. Cosimo Duke of Florence.



Vch is the curtesy of your
highnesse towards mee,
that I hold my selfe bound
to render an accompt of
the vacant leasure, which
partly by your louely ex-
hortations I haue enioyed
in these parching and noysome heates of the
fierie moneth of August, the enemy of moyst-
les old age. And therefore hauing intermit-
ted my History as a burthen more pōderous,
I resorted to take my pleasure in discourse &
conference with that vertuous gētleman Ma-
ster *Lodonica Dominico*, (who also thereunto
inuitd mee) vpon the inuention of *Imprese*,
borne at this day of great and Noble perso-
nages. Whereupon this litle tract being com-
posed, for that the subiect seemed delightfom
and the varierie of the matter pleasant, I em-
boldened

B.i.

boldened my selfe to commend it vnto you, deeming it to bee a meete recreation for so noysome a season. Resembling herein your simple Gardiner, who on your Table replenished with sundry and costly cates, aduētureth to present you a bundle of his fresh flowres with Rosemary and Bourage, to serue among other meate for a sauorie Sallade. This tract may well be compared to the diuersitie of the foresayd flowers, both gratefull to the vewe, and pleasaunt to the taste : which also I hope shalbe the rather accepted of you, for that it was brought foorth in your house. And after this maner had the argument of our present discourse his beginning. Master *Lodonicus Dominicus* familiarly accompanying mee in translating my History into the vulgar *Tuscan* tongue, he happely entred into conference of *Inuentions* and *Imprese*, which worthy gentlemen and noble Knights of our time beare (in token of their gentlemanly minds) vpo their Vestments, Shields, Bards, or Ensignes, to whome I answered.

Iou. The reasoning on such a subiect, may seeme as it were an entring into a vaste sea, from out the which there is no easie issue.

Dom. Vnder correction my Lord, you being a man of a quicke memory, prompt and of a present witte, let it please you to record a summarie of them, being now vnbusied from writing your Historie in these yntemperate dayes:

of Imprefes.

dayes : wherein a man laboreth wel if he preferue him self in health, neither can we better passe the time then in the delightfome reasoning of such pleasant conceites, which agree with the forme of a Historie, renouating a sweete memory of the notable men of our time, which already haue departed this life, not without their singular commendations. And this shalbe the more easie to you, hauing as I vnderstand, your selfe in your fresh & flourishing age composed many for such gentlemen as requested them of you.

Ion. This shal I willingly doe on this condition, that you will euer now and then make interrogatiues, to which, I will willingly answer, to the end our propose may cary the forme of a dialogue.

Dom. I yeeld you infinite thankses for such an offer, but first tell mee I pray you, whether the bearing of *Imprese* be an auncient vsage or not. There is no doubt but that the auncients vsed to weare Crestes & Ornaments on their Shields and helmets: which *Virgill* plainly discovereth when he reciteth the Catalogue of the nations which came in fauour of *Turnus* against the *Troians* in the eight booke of his *Aene.* *Amphiraus* also as *Pindar* reporteth, at the warre of *Thebes* bare a *Dragon* depainted on his shield. *Statius* writeth also of *Capanens* & *Polinices*, whereof the one bare an *Hidra*, and the other a *Sphinx*. We reade also in *Plutarch*,

The originall
& beginning
of Imprefes.

A Discourse

Make soft
speede.

how at the battel of the *Cimbri* seemed in shew
very gallant, as well for their siluer shining ar-
mour, as for the decked Crests of their Hel-
mets, wherein were represented the effigies
of diuers sauage beastes, depainted after di-
uers fashions. The same author reporteth that
Pompey the great did beare for his Enseigne a
Lyō with a sword clasped in his claw. We find
also in the remaynes of old antiquities many
to haue like signification to our moderne
Impreses, as appeareth in that of *Vespasianus*,
which was a *Dolphin* intangled with an An-
chore, with this posie: *Festina lentè*. A sentence
which *Octavianus Augustus* was wont often to
vse. But leauing apart these examples of anti-
quitie: of this the famous *Palladines* of Frāce
can yeld testimony, the which in trueth for
the most part were not fayned, and we see, in
that wherein the writers agree, that euery
one of them had his peculiar *Impresa* or En-
seigne. As *Orlando* the chesse, *Rinaldo* a *Lion*,
Denise a *Ladder*: *Salomon* of *Bretaigne*, the *Es-*
chequier: *Oliuer* a *Griffon*: *Astolphe*, a *Leopard*:
Ganelon a *Faulcon*. The like wee reade of the
Knights of the round Table, of *Arthure* that
renowned King of England. Those which are
famosed in the Spanish histories, as in *Amadis*
de Gaule, *Primaleō*, *Palmerin*, & *Tirante* vsed the
like. And now in this later age, in the time
of *Federicke* surnamed *Redbeard*, began the
age of Ensignes of families, called *Armes*:
giuen

of Imprefes.

giuen by Princes, in guerdon of honorable
exploytes atchieued in the field. Whereupon
there grewe such singulare and fantasticall
inuentions or Ensignes and Pictures vpon
Helmets, to enhaunce the honour of valiant
Knights, as may well bee seene by diuers Pic-
tures in the Church of newe Saint Maries at
Florence. But now in our time, after the com-
ming of Charles the eight, and Lewes the
twelft into Italie, euery one which followed
the warre, imitating the French Captaynes,
sought to adorne himselfe with goodly & pō-
pous *Imprese*, wherewith the troupes of horse-
men being separated company frō company,
made so resplendent shew, hatting their vpper
garments embrodred with siluer, bossed with
beaten gold, and in their breast and back the
Imprese of their Captaines: in so much that
the shewe of the men of Armes yelded a very
pōpouse & rich spectacle, & in the battel was
tried the couragious force of their cōpanies.

Dom. I perceiue my Lordé that your me-
mory is fresh, and therefore may it please
you to recount vnto mee of all such as you
your selfe haue seen, because I know that you
haue knowne all these Captaines by sight,
which are contained & made famous in your
historic, and perfectly hold imprinted in your
memorie the brauery of their ornaments.

Iou. I will not faile to declare you all these
things, and truely in delating hercof, I seeme

A Dialogue

In an absolute Imprese
are required
these.

- to my selfe to become a youth again, wherein
thē so much I delighted that it seemed a pre-
sage that I should write their historie. But be-
fore I come to repeate the particulars, it is
necessarie that I manifest the general proper-
ties which are required in making a perfect
Impresa: which is a thing very difficult, and
proceedeth of a sharp wit and rich inuention,
nourished by the worthy writings of auncient
men. Kuowe you then (Master Lodouico)
that an inuention of *Impresa*, (if it be to be ac-
counted currant) ought to haue these fīue
1 properties, First iust proportion of body and
2 soule. Secondly, that it be not obscure, that it
neede a *Sibilla* to enterprete it, nor so appa-
rant that euery rusticke may vnderstand it.
3 Thirdly, that it haue especially a beautifull
shewe, which makes it become more gallant
to the vew, inserting it with Starres, Sūnes,
4 Moones, Fire, Water, greene trees, Mechan-
icall instruments, fantastickall birds. Fourthly,
5 that it haue no humane forme. Fifthly, it must
haue a posie which is the soule of the body,
which ought to differ in language from the
Idioma of him which beareth the *Impresa*, to
the ende the sence may bee the more couert.
6 It is requisite also it bee brieft, yet so that it
may not breede scrupulous doubts, but that
two or three words may fit the matter well,
vnlesse it bee in the forme of a verse, either
whole or maymed. And to make apparent
these

of Imprefes.

these properties, you ſhal vnderſtand that the body and ſoule aboue mentioned, is meant either by the mot or by the ſubieſt, and an *Impreſa* is accounted vnperfect when the ſubieſt or body beare no proportiō of meaning to the ſoule, or the ſoule to the body. As *Ceſar Borgia* Duke of *Valentia* vſed this ſoule without a body, *Aut Ceſar aut nihil*: Meaning hereby, that he would ſhewe his manhoode, and make trial of his fortune. Whereupon after he was vnfortunatly taken and beheaded in *Nouara*, *Fauſto Maddalena* a *Romaine* ſayd, that the poſie was verified, in the laſt part of his Diſtich;

Borgia Ceſar erat factis & nomine Ceſar.

Aut nihil, aut Ceſar, dixit, vtrumq; fuit.

And truely in his greate and prosperous eſtate, the Poſie was moſt wittie and worthie his Nobilitie, if it had bene applied to a proportioned Subieſt, as was that of his brother *Don Franceſco* Duke of *Candia*, who had for his *Impreſa* the Mountaine *Chimera*, or *Acro-ceraunes* ſtrikē with the lightning of heauen, with theſe words out of *Horace*: *Ferunt ſum-*
mos fulmina montes. Which likewiſe was ver-

An Impreſe
imperfect,
Duplex.
1.

A ſoule with-
out the body.

The light-
ning hents
the highest
hilles.

throwne into *Tiber* by *Ceſar* his brother.
Contrariwiſe, a faire bodie or ſubieſt is as ill beſeeming if it bee without a ſoule, as was that of *Charles* of *Bourbon* Coſtable of *Fraunce*, who bare depainted a Hart with wings: mea-

2. A bodie
without a
ſoule.

A Discourse

ning thereby that his naturall swift running was not sufficient, but that he would flye into euery difficult and daungerous hazarde. The which *Impresa* (albeit the beauty of the goodlie beast, which was pompeuse) seemed yet blinde wanting a Posie, which should giue it light, which ministred occasion of sondrie interpretations: among which this one was most sharply giuen of a French Gentleman, called *Motta Augruing*, who attended on the Pope, when woful newes came of the discomfiture of the most Christian King at *Paui*a: & talking of the disloyaltie of *Bourbon*, sayd to Pope *Clement*: *Bourbon*, although he seemeth to be a betraier both of his King & Countrey, meriteth yet some excuse, in hauing shewen before what he ment to do by bearing in his Coate of Armes, a Hart with wings: meaning therby that he minded to flye into *Bourgonie*: which he could not doe with his feete, had he not had wings, and therefore this Posie was bestowed vpon him, *Cursum intendimus alis*.

The like defect had the *Impresa* of the Ladie *Hippolita Fioramonda* Marquise of *Scaldasole*, at *Paui*a, who farre excelled all the Gallants of our time both in beautie and amorous curtesie, who often wore in her Sky colored Sattin robes, Candleflyes all dispersed, wrought in embroidery of gold, but without a mot, warning thereby the amorous that they approach not too neere her fire, least it
happen

of Imprefes.

happen to them as it doth to that flye which ventureth so nere the flame that it burneth it self. And being requested of the Lord of *Lefui* (beeing a braue and valiaunt Knight, and at that time a practifer in the arte of Ryding) to manifest vnto him the meaning of this misterie: To whom she replied, It is conuenient for me to vse the like curtesie to Gentlemé which resorte to see me, as you doe to such as ride in your companie, being accustomed to put vnder the tayle of your Courfier a rattle or such like, to make him more fierce in yerking, to warne those which come nere you of the daunger of his heeles, and to cause them keepe the more aloofe. Yet could not this caucat take place with my Lorde of *Lefui*, but that many yeares after he perseuered in his loue, and at the ende being deadly wounded in the fiede of *Pania*, he was carried into the house of the Ladie Marquise: where he ended his life with great contentation, yeelding vp his last gaspe betweene the armes of his dearely loued Mistrisse and Patronesse, as he vsed to terme her.

The contrary defect had the mot of the worthie Lawyer Master *Iason di Maino*, who had engrauen ouer the gate of his Pallace this Posie without a bodie, *Virtuti fortuna comes*: signifying thereby that his vertue had happie fortune.

An *Impresa* may also be gallant in shewe by Proportion: reason of the ornaments and colours, of both required.
the

A Discourse

the body and soule, and yet by meanes of the weake proportion, that the soule hath to the subiect: it becommeth ridiculous & obscure, As that of the Duke *Lorenzo* of *Medici*, which was a Laurell tree betwixt two Lyons, with this mot; *Ita & virtus*. Signifying therby, that as the Laurell is euer flourishing, so is vertue neuer fading: but none there were which could tell what the 2. Lyons imported. Some said it represented Fortitude and Clemencie, in that they seemed to parle, their heads being so closely ioyned together: Others construed it an other waie. At length one Master *Domitius da Cagli*, Chaplaine to the Cardinall of *Medici*, (who was afterward Clement the feuenth, and comming to visite the Duke *Lorenzo*, who was sick of a disease wherof shortly after he died) aduentured to demaunde of one Master *Philippo Strozzi*, being desirous to vnderstand the secrete of the *Impresa*, inuited thereunto also by the Gentlemans courtesie, sayd: Master *Philippo* you which are so skilfull in learning, and also Cosine and companion of the Duke, shewe me I praie you what meaneth these Lyons vnder this Laurell tree. Master *Philippo* looking askance on the Chaplaine, who although he were a gowned man, yet not so well grounded in learning that his knowledge reached beyōd his portois, made him this sharpe and readie aunswere: Vnderstand you not (quoth he) that these Lyons do
garde

garde this Laurel, and defende it from the furie of fuch Poets, which runne mad on a rumor, hauing heard of the inueſting of the Abbot of *Gaeta*, ſolemnized in *Rome*, & flocke ſo faſt to ſpoyle her of her braunches, to ſhew them ſelues *Laureat*? The Chaplaine replied (who delighted to make certaine Sonnets to runne in dogrell rime) ſaying, As God helpe me it is done of very enuious malice: ſeeing that the Pope *Leo* hath curteouſly made *Laureat* the Abbot *Baraballo*, & that he hath cauſed him to triumph ouer the *Elephant*. Which thing came to the eares of the Cardinal, who greatly ieſted at *Domitio* as at a ſlender Poet, and an vnlearned Chaplaine.

Moreouer, we muſt haue regarde that it incurre not the ſuſpition of any great pride or preſumption, although both the ſoule & bodie bee ſound and perfect: for it eaſely diſcovereth the vanitie of the bearer. As did that of the great Cardinall of *S. George*, named *Raphael Riario*: who ſet in a thouſande places about his Pallace depainted a ſterne of a Ship, with this mot, *Hoc opus*. As who ſhould ſaie, I ſhould neede to be Pope or gouernour of the worlde, that makes ſuch gorgeous and magnificent buildings. Which deuife ſel out moſt vaine, when Pope *Lee* was created, and afterwards (being founde confederate in the conſpiracie with the Cardinall *Alphonſo Petrucci*) he was taken and conuicted, his goodes conſiſcate,

Not.

A Discourse

fiscate, & he himself banished to *Naples* where he ended his life.

These three which follow are called of the Italians *Cifre celate*, and not *Imprese*, Composed onely of youth unfit for grauitie, as hath bene shewed in the Preface

Margerit I onely loue thee with my heart.

Margherit I adore thee.

Bianca signifieth white.

I tell you it were a greate point of folly to taxe the defects of *Imprese* which are vsed in this age, being composed of the vndiscrete, and borne of mad braines, as was that of the fierce Souldier, (I will not saie *Ruffion*) *Sebastien del Mancino*, (which name was accomted at that time honorable among Fencers) who vsed to weare on his hat, a shoe sole, with the letter *T*. & a Pearle, which is called *Margherita*, in the midst of the sole, thereby to discouer his affection, and his Mistrisse name after this maner: *Margherita Te suola di cuor amo*. Margerit I soly loue thee.

An other being his riuall called *Pannolena*, setting the same in beaten golde in steade of leather, therby seeming to inferre this *Margherita te adoro*: *Margherit I adore thee* (you must vnderstande that *adoro* in the Italian tongue, signifieth to reuerence or worship, and also to beautifie and decke with golde) supposing there to be greater efficacie, in I adore, then in this threedbare word, I loue thee.

The like inuention was that of Master *Augustine Porco* of *Pania*, inamoured of the Lady *Bianca Paltimiera*: who to shewe himself her faithfull seruant, vsed to weare fastened to his scarlet Bonet, a little Candle of white Wax, to signifie, by deuiding this word *Candela*, which is in Englishe a Candle, into three syllables

of Imprefes.

fillables *Can de la* : *Can* , that is faithfull ser-
uaunt, *de la Bianca*, of the *Bianca*.

CAN, a dog, a
most faithfull
seruaunt.

But much more ridiculous was that of *Cavalier Casio* the *Bolognian* Poet, both for bravery and fine inuention, who wore in his hat, in a greate *Agate* the discention of the holie Ghost vpon the twelue Apostles: and beeing demaunded of Pope *Clement*, with whom he was very familiare, wherefore he wore this Doue, representing the holy Ghost, and the fierie tongues vpon the heades of the Apostles, he answered, Not for any deuotion, but to expresse a conceipt of loue. For hauing bene of a long time inamored of a Ladie, and vngratfully handled of her, not able any longer to support her craftie delaies, nor the expences bestowed on presentes and giftes, I figured the Feast of *Pentecost*: meaning, I repēt of the cost bestowed of my Ladie. Vpō which exposition the Pope (howbeit he were in other thinges seuerē) laughed so vehemently that he rose from the table at the middest of supper.

There were also in aūcient time, some wor-
thie Personages which wanting the inuētion
of such like subiects supplied it with mots of
their owne phantasies, which became very ri-
diculous, as when they were to long. As was
the mot of *Castruccio* Lord of *Luca*, when *Lo-
donico Bauaro* was crowned Emperour, & he
made *Romaine Senator*, which was then a ve-

A Discourse

It is as God
will.
And shalbe as
God will.

ry great dignitie, who wore openly in a Cre-
mosin Cloke this mot embrodered in his
breast: *Egli é come dio vuole:* and aunswerable
to that behind was another, *E sara quel che dio
vorra.*

The like fault of length had that of the
Prince of *Salerna*, who builded the sumptu-
ous Pallace in *Naples*, on a Pinnacle: whereof
in the fore front he erected a paire of hornes
with this mot:

*Porto le corna ch' ogui Huomo le vede,
E qualch' Altro te porta che vol crede.*

In English thus.

I weare the hornes which each man sees by
vewe:

And some man weares them to, which scarce
he thinks is true.

Desirous thereby to quip a certaine Noble-
man, who talked dishonorably of a Ladie, ha-
uing himself a wife suspected of her honestie.
The length of these mots are the rather con-
dēned, for that they are in the proper tōgue
of him which weares thē. For that, as I have
said, they better square in a straūge language.

Dom. My Lorde you haue euen reuiued
me with the ridiculous follies of so many *Im-
prese*, as you haue recited vnto me.

Jon. It shalbe now therefore time that we
returne to our purpose, recompting onely
such *Imprese* which saueur of magnanimitie,
sharpe inuention, and generositie. And it see-
meth

of Imprefes.

meth vnto me, that these great Princes of the world (in hauing about their persons men of singulare wit, and learning) haue gotten vnto them selues, the honour of such inuentions: as amongst other the Emperour Charles the fift, the King of Spayne, and Pope *Leo*. For that of the Emperour exceeded farr the *Impresa* of his Grandfather by the mothers side the great Charles Duke of *Bourgonie*. And in my opiniõ that of the *Pillars of Hercules* with the mot, *Plus ultra*, not onely excelled in grauitie and braue inuention the Tinderbox of his sayde Grandfather, but also all other which either Kinges or Princes haue borne to this daie.

Dom. In trueth these Pillars with their mot (considering the good fortune in the happie Conquest of the West *Indies*, which eclipseth the glory of the old *Romaines*) doth satisfie the vewe, with the goodly subiect, and delighteth the minde of the considerate regarder, with the perfection of the soule annexed vnto it.

Jou. Maruaile not thereat, for the inuentor therof was an excellent man, named Master *Laigi Marliano* of *Millan*, Phisition of the Emperour, and died Bishop of *Tui*. And beside other of his excellent qualities, he was a great Mathematician. For commonly these picked *Imprese* spring not of light braines, but of rare wittes.

Dom.

A Discourse

Dom. The trueth you saie my Lorde, but tell me of fauour what you were about to saie touching the tinderbox of the Duke of *Bourgonie*: I praie you recompt vnto me the historie of this famous inuention, with the which the valerous troupes of worthie Knightes of this our age adorne them selues, who are of the honorable companie of the order of the Fleece, amplified by the inuincible Charles the fift.

Jou. This which you demaund is very intricate and of few knowne, yea hardly of many, which weare it about their necke: because thereunto is hanged the Fleece, interpreted of some the golden Fleece of *Iason* gotten by the *Argonautes*. And some referre it to the holy scripture, that it is the Fleece of *Gedcon*, which signifieth vnbroken faith. But returning to our purpose concerning the tinderbox of the valiaunt Duke of *Bourgonie*, who was fierce in armes, and vsed to weare the flint-stone with the steele and boxe, and two tronchions of wood thereby, to denotate, that he had power to kindle greate fires of Warre, (as the trueth is he did) but this his whole valure had a sorowfull successe. For taking in hand the warre against *Lorena* & the *Suissers*, he was (after receiuing two discomfitures) ouercome and flaine aboue *Nansi*, the Eauen of the *Epiphany*, and his *Imprese* was skorned of *Renato* Duke of *Lorena*, who was

tri-

of Imprefes.

triumpher in this conflict, to whom when his Ensigne was presented, Truly (quoth he) this vntfortunate man when he had neede to warme himself, had no leasure to vse his tinderbox. Which saying was the more pithie, for that the same day of the battel, the earth was couered with Snow all died with blood, and it was the greatest colde, that happened within the memorie of mā: In such sorte that it might be seene by the Duke, that the wauering Goddesse dayned not to accompanie his deuine manhood in these three last enterprises.

Dom. As farre as I perceiue my Lorde, you haue begun according to your promise, to enter into the chosen & picked *Imprese*, which the worthies of our age doe weare. Wherevpon, I hope that as our inuētions are more subtil, & our knowledge purified, in respect of that of former time: euen so our moderne deuises and *Imprese* shall appere more gallāt, as proceeding of more flowing wittes. But before you profecute your discourse of these late *Imprese*, I pray you sith you haue recited the order of the Pleece, to declare vnto me in a word or two, the posie which they of the Order in England doe weare.

Ion. Touching your demaunde, for that it is an auncient custome commenced aboue two hundred yeres passed, this onely reporte remaineth: That the Order being instituted

C.i. by

A Discourse

A plaine
crosse geules
in the fiede
argent.

by Edward the third (a magnanimous Prince) vnder the protection of S. George on horse-backe within a white Shielde, parted with a red crosse: the King by chaunce in gathering vp a garter from the ground, gaue occasion to a certaine Ladie whose garter it was, to murmur at it. Wherefore it pleased him in the honor of that Ladie, to ordaine that euerie Knight of the Order, which were wont to be sixe and twentie, should weare for an Ensigne about their legges the Garter with this inscription, *Honni soit qui mal y pense*.

But now returning to our time more enriched with singulare wittes, I saie that those Kings which of late haue bene, haue aduaunced them selues both in their warly enterprises, & also in the brauerie of their ornaments of *Imprese*; aboue the honour of their auncestors. And to begin with that of *Lewes* the twelfth, King of Fraunce, which seemeth to all men, both of singulare beautie in shewe, and also of excellent sharpnesse in sence, for that it fitted the noble nature of that Martiall Prince, whom no toyle of Warre could euer tire, who with an inuincible minde caused to bee worne on the vpper garments of the Archers of his Garde, a Hedghogge crowned, which pricketh those, that come neere to annoy it, & casteth most sharp thornes at those which stande farther off: signifying thereby that his forces were readie nere at hand and also

of Imprefes.

also abroad . On which subiect I remember to haue scene this mot, *Comminus & eminus.*

Nothing inferiour to that of *Lewes*, was the *Impresa* which his successor and Sonne in lawe *Fraunces* the first vsed to beare, who as his flipperie youth did leade him, chaunged the manly exploites of warre, with the weake pleasures and effeminate delights of his fond loue . And to signifie that he fried in these passionat flames, wherein so much he gloried that he shamed not to saie, that he nourished himselfe in them . Whereupon he wore the *Salamander* in the flaming fire, with this mot, *Me nutrisco*: being the proper qualitie of this beast to purge all her cold humors amōg the burning coales: wherby it commeth to passe that she feareth not the force of the fire, but rather téperateth the heate thereof, or putteth it out . And traeth it was that this heroicall and curteouse King was neuer without a loue, being notwithstanding zelous in affecting, and liberall in rewarding the vertuous, and of courage valiaunt, against all the iniquities of Fortune (as the *Salamander*, against the force of the fire) in all chaüces, and warly euent: and this inuention was forged with the stampe of his owne braine.

Also that of his Sonne and successor King *Henry*, is in all points comparable to the former, who cōtinued to beare the same *Impresa*, which whilome he made beeing *Daulphin*:

C.ii.

which

A Discourse

which was the Moone Cressant , with this braue mot carying great sence: *Donec totum impleat orbem*. Signifying thereby , that vntill he amounted to the inheritance of the kingdome , he could not manifest his inward valure, as the Moone cā not yeeld her full light, vntill she come to her perfect greatnes . And of this his noble mind the recouering of *Bologne*, and many other whorthy acts (which *Italie* can witnes) doe yeeld sufficient testimonie. Wherefore at the earnest request of Sir *Mortier* the French Embassadour, after the death of *Frauncis* his father , I figured a full Moone al round, with this mot: *Cum plena est, sit Emula Solis* , shewing that shee had so great brightnesse, that she equalled the sonne, making the nights as cleare as the dayes. The king also meant hereby to yeeld some thing to the honour of a Lady vnder the name of *Diana*, who was accounted of the Auncients, the same goddesse with the Moone.

Dom. Without doubt these three *Imprese* of these three Frēch kings, haue in my iudgement, all the excellencie required both in the subiect & outward shewe, as also in the soule. And I doubt whether the sharpe witted *Spanyard* can come neere them.

Iou. And truely therein you are not deceived , for it is a difficult thing any way to better them.

But the King of Spaine quitteth him selfe well

of Imprefes.

wel in bearing the *Gordia* knot with the hād of *Alexāder*, who with his Faulchion cut it in funder when hee could not vndoe it with his fingers : engrauiing this mot aboute it, *Tanto Monta*. To the end you may vnderstand the meaning of this prudent king, you neede to reade *Quintus Curtius*, how that in *Asia* in the Citie of *Gordius*, there was in a Temple an inextricable knotte, & it was giuē out by the Oracle, that hee which could vntie the same, should be lord of all *Asia*. Whereupon *Alexander* cōming thither, and finding no way to vnlose it, by fatall rashnes, and in despite, cut it in peeces, & by that meanes *Oraculum impleuit aut elusit*. The like hapened vnto the Catholique king: who hauing long strife and contention about the kingdome of *Castile*, finding no way to attaine to his right, with sworde in hand he aduentured, and gotte it, whereby this so worthy an *Impresa* got great fame, and was adiudged of equall witte and learning with those of Fraunce. Some men were of the opinion, that it sprung from the subtile inuention of *Antonio Nibrisa*, an excellent learned man, who is said to reuiue the latine tongue in Spayne. But to say the trueth (although that many notable *Imprese* haue sprung from the worthy wittes of the Spaniards, as was that which *Don Diego* of *Mendoza*, a valiant and honorable knight, did vse to weare in the warres of the great Capitaine

So much he
excellerh.

A Discourse

Consaluo Ferrante. Yet there haue bene some very vayne, and voyde of all such properties as they ought to haue, as was that of the knight of the house of *Porres*, who being inamored of a Gentlewoman attendant on the Queene *Isabell*, whose name was *Anna*, and fearing that she should marry with a certaine other knight farre richer then himselfe, who sought to winne her from him: he therefore counsayling her that she should remayne constant in her loue towards him, and not condescende in any case to the other, he wore on his Crest depainted a Ducke, which in Spanish is called *Annadino*, which name deuided into sillables, is after this maner, *Anna di no*. As much to say, as Anne say no.

Like vnto this also was that of *Don Diego* of *Guzman*, who hauing receiued a discourteous countenance at the hands of his Mistres: wore in a triumphe at Iusts, a great bush of greene Mallowes: to denotate thereby that his loue went a crosse: for *Malua* in Spanishe is the herbe Mallowe, and beeing distinctly written, *Mal va*, is as much to say, as it goeth ill, the affayres of my loue haue no good successe.

Dom. These here agree well with those ridiculous inuentions of the white Candle, and of Penticost. But I pray you shut vp these vanities with the worthy *Impresa* of *Don Diego* of *Mendoza*, which whylome you sayde to be

of Imprefes.

be so commendable.

Iou. Yea, and peradventure the onely one among those which are exstant, not only in Spayne, but els where. And this it was, that hauing founded the ford of his Mistris phan- sie, and finding the wharfe of her good will very difficult to ariue at: being driuen into dolorous affections, and as it were desperate, inuented a wheele with buckets which draw vp water, and then cast it forth againe: And for that half the buckets are full receiuing in the water, & half are emptie casting it forth, he adioined this mot, * *Los llenos de dolor y, Los vazios de speranza*. This was esteemed an *Imprefe* of subtile inuention, and almost singulare in outward vewe, because the water and the wheele gaue to the beholders great light vnto the subiect, and seemed to inferre this, that his griefe was without hope of any remedie.

Those that are full, carrie sorrow, those that are emptie, hope.

Worthie of Cominendation was also the *Impresa* of *S. Antonio da leua*: who beeing by reason of the Goute caried in his Chaire, caused this mot to be worne of his Captaine, set on the trappings and ornaments of his horse, *Sic vos non vobis*: at such time as Charles the fift was crowned in *Bologna*, and the Dukedome of *Millan* restored to *Francesco Sforza*. And the mot was without a bodie, which if it had not, there could not haue bin a better. For that therby he seemed to shew, that how

C.iiii.

by

A Discourse

by his vertue and manhood the state of *Milan*, was gotten and preserued, and after restored to the Duke by the Emperour, being desirous to retaine it to himself, contrary to the order of the league, as he had done before.

And because I am to prosecute the order of the Nobilitie, I wil recite vnto you the *Imprese* of the fower last Kings of *Aragona*: and amongst other what the opened Booke doth signifie, being the *Impresa* of *Alphonfus*: which hauing no soule of any mot at all, caused many to doubt of the signification. And for that the King was of incomparable knowledge, as well in feates of Armes as faculties of learning, and also excellēt in the practise of ciuile gouernment: some sayd one thing, and some another: but most mē thought he ment thereby, that libertie was the most precious thing that a man might haue, and therefore he himself as most prudent, neuer tooke any to wife, therby not to make him seruant to his owne choyce. Some sayd he bare the Booke to signifie that the perfection of the intelligence of man, consisted in the knowledge of the Sciences and liberall Arts, in the which he himself was very studious. But to let passe the significations of this Booke, I saie that *Ferrante* his Sonne bare a worthie *Impresa*, which began vpon the rebellion of *Marino di Marciano* Duke of *Sessa*, and Prince of *Rossana*, who although he were Cosin to the King, notwithstanding

of Imprefes.

standing did confederate with Duke Iohn of *Augio*, to procure the death of his Lord and King being at Parliament: but by meane of his hardinesse and noble courage, the trecherous purpose could take no effect. The historie of this euēt remaineth engrauen in Brasse on the gate of *Castel nuovo*. And after a time *Marino* being taken & cast into prison, he resolved with himself not to put him to death: saying, that he would not embrue his handes in the blood of his owne kindred, (albeit he were vngratefull) contrary to the expectation & will of many his freends, and Counsailers: and in token of this his noble mynd and clemencie, he figured an *Armelui* compassed about with a bancke of dung, with this mot, *Malo mori quam fœdari*: being the proper nature of the *Armelui* rather to perishe by hunger and thirst, then by escaping through the mire to defile her self, and spot the polished white of her precious skin.

That also of *Alphonfus* the second his Sonne was braue, but very extrauagant, as being composed of sillables of the Spanish tongue. And it was after this maner, that the daie drawing nere of the battell of *Campo Morto*, against the *Velletri*, to exhorte his Captaines & Souldiers, depainted in his Standard three diadems of Sainets ioyned together, with this worde *Valer* in the middest, to signifie that that day they ought to shewe their manhood
aboue

A Discourse

aboute all other : pronouncing it after the Spanish maner, *Dia de mas valer*: a day of greater valure.

Right notable in trueth was that of *Ferandino* his Sonne, who being induced with these noble and Princely qualities, liberalitie and clemencie, and to shewe that these qualities were of nature & not arte: he figured a mountaine of *Dyamants*, which growe all as naturally of them selues, as if they were fashioned by workmanship and arte: hauing this mot, *Natura non artis opus*.

Neither was that lesse commendable of King *Federicke* Vncle to *Ferandino*, who succeeded him in his Kingdome (being by the spareles *Parca*, depriued of life) & taking possession of the Kingdome, beeing weakened with the late warres, & enfeeblished with the factions of those of *Anion*, to assure the Nobilitie of the contrary parte of his fauour, he did beare figured in forme, a Booke of accomptes, with leather stringes and buckles, after the maner of the Bankers bookes, setting for the title 1485. & represented flames of fire to arise by the margents of the Booke being closed, with a mot of the holy Scripture: which was this, *Recedant vetera*. To shew by this his worrhie inuention, that he pardoned all men their misdeedes and offences for that yeare. And herein he immitated the auncient *Athenians* which made the lawe of
Amnestia:

of Imprefes.

Amnestia : which signifieth obliuion or forgetting all which is past . Yet this did little profite the good King *Federicke* . For within five yeres by the vnpreuented conspiracie of *Ferdinando* King of Spaine, with *Lewes* the 12. of Fraunce , he was enforced to abandon his Kingdome, and leaue it to these two Kinges, who deuided it amongst them.

There were other Princes of Italie and famous Captaines, who delighted to shew their conceiptes in *Imprese*, & such deuises, amongst the which , was worthely esteemed that of *Francesco Sforza* Duke of *Millan* (at that time wherein these sharpe inuentions were not so rife) who hauing taken possession of the state, by meanes of the right of his wife, *Madonna Bianca Viscont*, and by force of Armes appeased all troubles, caused to be embrodered on his Coate armour, a Mastiffe or Greyhoūd crouching on his hinder legges, & standing vp before, vnder a Pine tree, with this mot, *Quietū nemo impune lacssset* , to signifie that he would not molest any man , but that he was readie to offend, and defend himself, if any dared to oppose them selues against him : whereof he made triall against the *Venetian* Nobilitie, (whiles he held quiet the King *Renato* of *Prouince*) in repressing the greedie desire which they seemed to haue of that state.

Very like vnto the former deuise in beautie, was the obscure *Impresa* of *Galeazzo* his Sonne

A Discourse

Sonne and Successor, which was a Lyon with an Helmet on his head, sitting on a great fire. Very fayre was the picture to the vewe, but yet reputed without a good inuention, being without a mot, and hardly vnderstoode of the author himselfe: wherefore I will not straine me with the repeating of the diuers interpretations which were giuen of many, whereof some were vayne and ridiculous.

But yet very learned and of a gallant shew, was that of his brother Duke *Lodouico* (although too too presumptuous) who was, for the opinió men had of his wisdom, on a time chosen the Iudge and arbiter of the Peace & Warre of Italie, & thereupó he bare the Mulbery tree, (called in Italian *Celso moro*) for his *Impresa*: which as *Plinie* saith, is accounted *sapientissima omnium arborum*, because it bloometh late, to auoyde the pinching frosts, and ripeneth her fruit very soone. As who should say, he knewe by his wisdom, what fortune the future times would bring. But his wit failed him when he called the French men into Italie, to warre against the King *Alphonfus* his deadly enemy, which were after the cause of ruine: and so became his great wisdom to derision, ending his life, imprisoned in the Towre of *Loches* in Fraunce, a fit example of the misery and vaine glory of man.

Hee caused him selfe also to be surnamed *Moro*. And when he passed the streetes, a man might

of Imprefes.

might here the voice of children and apprentices crying aloud, *Moro, Moro* : And continuing in his like vanities, he caused to be depaynted in the Castle, Italie in the forme of a Queene, inuested with a golden robe, wherein were embrodered all the chiefe Cities of Italie, according to their right semblance: and before her standing a wayting blacke *More*, with a Brush in his hand. Whereat on a time the Ambassadour of *Florence* merueiling, demanded of the Duke, to what ende serued this blacke Page which brushed the robe and the cities. To whome the Duke answered, To cleanse them from all filth, to giue him to vnderstand, that the *More* was iudge of Italie, to order her as he thought good. Nowe the sharp witted Florentine perceiuing his drift, sayd, Take heede Sir that this *More* brush not so long, that he brush al the dust on him selfe: wherein he foretold the trueth. And here you are to note that many thinke that this *Lodouico* was called *Moro*, for his browne skinne and blacke face, but they are deceiued, for rather was he of a white & pale cōplexion, then in any part black as we our selues haue seene.

But that excelleth not onely the *Imprese* of the Princes of Italy, but also those of the house of the *Medici*, his predecessors, which Iohn the Cardinal of *Medicis* inuēted, who afterward was Pope *Leo* being restored vnto *Florence*, by the force and power of the Spanyades,

A Discourse

nyards, hauing bene before eightene yeres in exile. His *Impresa* was a yoke, which Oxen vse to beate, and the mot *Suane*, signifying thereby that he was not returned to tyrānise ouer his country, nor to reuenge the iniuries done him of his enemies, and factious citizens: But rather to shewe that his gouernment shoulde be gentle with al clemencie, with the mot out of the scripture answerable to his Priestly habit, taken out of this place: *Iugum meum suauē est, & onus meum leue*. And truely it was very congruent to his nature, and proceeded from the sharpnes of his own learned wit: although it seemed that the yoke came first from the great *Cosimo*, who whē he was recalled to his country from exile, figured the cittie *Florence* sitting on a Chayre, with a yoke vnder her feete: to shew thereby as it were that saying of *Cicero*, *Roma patrem patria Cicronem libera dixit*, and for the excellencie hereof, it continued to be worne vnto the time of Pope *Leo*, and merited to be instamped in the coyne of *Florence*.

Dom. This *Impresa* doth greatly delite me, and in my iudgement is very notable: but of fanour I pray you, let it please you to recount others of the most famous house of *Medicis*, & in thē to touch diffusedly, both the deuise and also the Historie, which shall notably expiane them, and bring great delight to this your discourse.

of Imprefes.

Iou. I cānot go beyond the three Diamāts which the great *Cosimo* did beare, which you see engraue in the chamber wherein I lye. But to tell you the trueth, although with all diligēce I haue searched, yet cānot I find precisely what they signifie, & thereof also doubted Pope *Clemēt*, who in his meaner fortune, lay also in the selfe same chamber.

And trueth it is that he sayd, the *Magnifico Lorenzo* vsed one of them with greate brauerie, inserting it betweene three feathers of three sundrie colours, greene, white, and red: which betokened three vertues, Faith, Hope, and Charitie, appropriate to those three colours: Hope, greene: Faith, white: Charitie, red, with this worde, *Semper*, belowe it. Which *Impresa* hath bene vsed of all the successors of his house, yea, and of the Pope: who did beare it imbrodered on the vpper garments of the horsmen of his garde, vnder that of the yoke.

The *Magnifico Pietro*, Sonne of *Cosimo*, did beare a Faulcō with a Diamond in her talent, And the same was vsed also of Pope *Leo*, and Pope *Clement* likewise, with this mot *Semper*, applied to the title of religiō, which the Popes professe, although it bee, as is aboue sayde, a foolish thing to compose mots of sillables, or single words. The *Magnifico* woulde haue to bee vnderstoode hereby, that euery thing ought to be done to the will and pleasure of God, and the better doth it fit this purpose,
for

A Discourse

for that the Diamant is of so inuincible fortitude both against the fire and stroke of the Hammer : as was most miraculously this *Magnifico*, against the conspiracies and trecheries of M. *Luca Pitti*.

The *Magnifico Pietro*, Sonne of *Lorenzo*, as a youth and inamored, vsed to beare for his *Impresa*, great Billets of greene wood, set one vpon the other, which seemed to cast forth flames and smoke from the fire within, signifying that his enflamed affection, was the more vehement, for that the wood wherewith it burned, was yet greene. And this was the inuention of that learned man *Angelus Politianus*, who made thereunto a mot containing this latin verse:

In viridi teneras exurit flamma medullas.

The *Magnifico Iulian* his brother, a man of good nature and excellent witte, who was afterward Duke of *Nemors*, hauing taken to wife the Neece of the King of Fraunce, Sister to the Duke of *Sauoi*, to shewe that fortune which was so many yeres aduerse vnto him, now began to turne her fauour towards him, he caused to bee set in a shield of triangular forme, this word of sixe letters, *GLQVIS*: which turning backward, you may read *SLVOLG*. And because it was iudged obscure and vayne in sence, many of his affectioned seruantes, interpreted euery letter seuerally by it selfe, whereby arose as many diuersities of

It turneth.

of Imprefes.

of opinions, as did among them in the Col-
cell of *Basile*, who interpreted the name of
Pope Fælix: saying, *Felix id est falsus eremita lu-
dicator*.

And because we haue aboue spoken of the
Imprese of *Lorenzo*, it shal not be amisse, to say
somewhat of that of *Pope Clement*, which wee
see depainted in euery place, and was inuen-
ted of *Dominico Boninsegni Florentine* his trea-
soror, who searched the secrets of nature, and
found that the Sunne beames passing through
a peece of Christall, beeing so strengthened
through their vniting, according to the na-
ture of the *Prospectiue*, that they burne euery
obiet, sauing only things passing white. And
Pope Clement willing to shewe to the worlde
that the puritie of his minde, could not bee
contaminated, by the malicious, neither by any
force, vsed this *Imprese*: when his Enemies in
the time of *Adrian*, fought to bereaue him
both of life and dignitie, which conspiracie
thei brought to no effect. The *Impresa* became
very notable and renowned, because therein
were all thinges which might make faire ap-
parance to adorne it, which were these: a roud
peece of Christall, the Sunne with his beames
passing through, the flame proued by them,
all set in a white hood, with this mot, *Candor
illesus*. Yet for all this, was it very obscure to
those which knewe not the propertie aboue
sayd. Wherefore it needed that wee his ser-

A Discourse

naunts should to each man desirous to know the same expounded, and make manifest what *Boninsegni* and the Pope ment thereby: which obscuritie ought to be shunned in an *Imprese*, as is before declared. And it was the more intricate for that the mot was deuised by syllables, as this, *Can dor ille sus*. One Master *Simon Schiauone* Chaplaine to the Pope, who had no more learning then would serue him to mumble vp a Masse, all meruelling at the Posie, demaunded of me, what the deuill, the Pope ment thereby, which as he thought serued to no purpose: For (quoth he) *ille sus* signifies, that Sowe: and repeting it oftentimes, *ille*, is that, & *sus*, is sure a Sowe, as I haue learned in the Grammer Schoole at *Sebenico*, and therefore must it needes be that Sowe. Vpon this arose great laughter, & the matter came to the Popes eare, who gaue aduertisement not to deride it by letters to auoyde the like errors of *Amphibologia*, committed by such foolish interpreters.

That also of *Hippolito* Cardinall of *Medicis*, although it was very goodly both in shew and substance, yet had it some defect: for that none could thoroughly vnderstand it saue only the learned, & such as were very well seene in the Poems of *Horace*: for being desirous to signifie that the Ladie *Iulia Gonzaga*, excelled in beautie all other women, (which is not vknowne to our age, who for her chaste conditions,

of Imprefes.

tions, and excellent vertues doth reuerence
her) he figured a Comet, whereof saith *Plinie*,
Augustus did write, that in the time of the
Feastes, which he ordained to bee celebrated
to *Venus*, a few daies after the death of *Iulius*
Cesar, appeared in the Septentrionall parts of
the heauens shining so bright the space of se-
uen daies to euery Region, that it began to
appeare an houre before Sunne setting. The
common people thought this Starre to sig-
nifie, that the soule of *Iulius Cesar* was recei-
ued into the cōpanie of the immortall Gods:
which was the occasion that *Augustus* placed
the signe of this Commet on the top of the
Statue, which he had erected in the *Forum* for
his adopted Father Whervpon, *Horace* vseth
these wordes to the honour of *Iulius Cesar*.

Micat inter omnes Italium sydus

Velut inter ignes luna minores.

So *Hippolito* taking out these verses onely
Inter omnes, vouchsafed to vse it as a mot to
honour this most vertuous and renoumed
Lady. And in the *Impresa* being the figure of a
Commet, it seemeth that it was to prognos-
ticate the dolefull death of the Cardinall,
which peraduenture the fearefull starre did
threaten, who being constrained to passe frō
Gaeta into *Affrica* to the Emperour, who lay
then at *Tunis*, by the way to the great discom-
fiture and grieve of all his friends died at *Siri*
Castile, which was then in the possession of the

A Discourse

Lady *Julia Gonzaga*.

He had also before, another *Impresa* of the Eclipse, figuring the Moone in the shadowe, which happeneth by reason of the interposition of the earth betweene the sunne and it, with this mot, *Hinc aliquando eluctabor*. Signifying thereby that he was placed in the darknes of certayne obscure and troublesome thoughts and imaginations, from which hee strived to issue forth, but in shewing what they were, because they seeme impure, and scarce honest, and because I will not doe prejudice to so worthy a man, neither to the worship of his house, I leaue to explicate the meaning of the *Impresa*, which shall notwithstanding be vnderstoode of many which remember the man.

After the death of the Cardinall the Duke *Alexander*, hauing married *Margherit* of *Africa*, daughter to the Emperour, and gouerning *Florence* with equale iustice agreeable to the citizens: seeing himselfe gallant and able of person, was desirous to make himselfe renowned by the warres, saying, that to get glory and in taking the Emperours part, hee would couragiously enter into euery difficult and dangerous enterprise: resolute in this, either to win honour with praise, or lose his life in perill. And hereupon on a day earnestly requested mee to deuise him some notable *Impresa* to weare on his cote Armor. And I chose him

of Imprefes.

him out the wild beast *Rhinoceros*, the deadly enemy of the *Elephant*, which being sent to Rome by *Emanuel King of Portugals*, who fought with it, comming by *Province* where it was seen being arriued on the land, and afterward drowned by hard fortune, amongst the rocks a litle aboue *Porto Venere*, (for it was not possible that such a beast could saue it self being chayned, albeit it swam miraculously among the sharp rocks, which are all along that coste) yet notwithstanding there was brought to Rome, his true portrature, and greatnes in February 1515 with information of his nature: the which as *Plinie* saith, and the *Portugals* affirme, is to goe and finde the *Elephant*, and assaulting him, striketh him vnder the panch with a hard and sharpe horne which it hath growing on his snout, neither doth hee euer depart from his enemy, nor from fight, til he hath veried and slaine him, which most often falleth out; vnles the *Elephant* with his long snout doe take him by the throte, and in closing doe strangle him. The forme of this beast in goodly embrodery serued for the co-verture of his *Barbarie* horses: which ran in Rome for the price or masterie, with this mot in the Spanigh tongue: *No buella sin uincor*: I I warre not but I win.
retourne not without victory, according to this verse; *Rhinoceros nunquam vittus ab hoste cedit*. This deuise pleased him so that he caused it to be engrauen in his brest plate.

C.iii.

Dom.

(I.iii)

A Discourse

Dom. Sith you haue rehearsed the *Impresa* of the noble Princes of the house of *Medici* which are dead, let it please you to say somewhat of those, which the worthy Duke *Cosmo* was wont to weare, of the which we haue seen so many in the Pallace of the forelayde *Medici*.

Ion. In trueth I sawe many the day of his mariage, which seemed to issue from worthy wittes, Whereof one aboue all pleased me, for that it was fitly applyed to his highnes, who hauing *Capricornus* for his *Ascendant*, as also *Augustus Caesar*, as witnesseth *Suetonius*. And therefore caused the Image thereof to be instamped in his Coyne. This beast seemed vnto me very congruent to the purpose, for that *Charles the fifth*, vnder whome the princely estate of this Noble Duke flourished, had likewise the same ascendēt. And it seemed a thing fatall, that the Duke *Cosmo* the same day of the *Calends* of August, wherein *Augustus Caesar* obtayned the victory ouer *Antonius* and *Cleopatra* at the promontory *Acticum*, the same day he discomfited and tooke his enemyes on the mountayne *Murlo*. But this *Capricornus* hauing no *Posie*: I adioyned thereunto this mot: *Fidem fati virtute sequimur*. To this sence I wil strue with mine owne vertue, to archiue that, which the *Horoscopus* doth promise me. And so I figured the starres of that Constellation in the Chamber ordeyned for the honor
of

of Imprefes.

of the Duke. Which *Imprefa* you haue feene in my Study, where is also the Eagle which signifieth *Jupiter* and the Emperour, who holdeth out in her beake a triumphant Crowne, with this mot: *Jupiter Merentibus offert*, signifying that his highnes deserued eche glorious reward for his worthy vertues.

He bare also another in the beginning of his gouernment, learnedly deuised by the reuerend Master *Piea Francesco da Rini*: and it was that which *Virgil* speaketh of in the *An.* of the golden Bowe, with this mot: *Vno annulso non deficit alter*, signifying a bowe rent from the tree, in the place whereof suddenly succeeded another, meaning thereby, that the Duke *Alexander* was not so soone departed this life, but that there was another of the same golden lyne ready to succcede him.

Dom. It seemeth vnto mee my Lord that you haue sufficiently touched those which appertayne to the house of *Medicis*: It therefore remayneth, that you now speake of other Princes and famous Captaynes, which you your selfe in your time haue knowen.

Jou. I will not faile herein, and now you haue pleasauntly pricked me forwardes, you make me call to minde many thinges pertinent to this purpose, which now I wil disburthen to doe you pleasure and satisfie your desire: sith the number of so many *Imprese* are tedious vnto you.

D.iiii.

Dom.

A Discourse

Doms. This memorie of yours cannot seeme yrksome to any man of iudgement, nor tedious to those which delight in these Gentlemanlike discourses, and let not this extreme heate which alreadie maketh you to sweate, (although we are set in a freshe & ayrie place) be any excuse to cause you to breake of your talke.

You. Well, sith it is your pleasure, I am content to begin with the valiaūt troupe of Capitaines, which you haue sene renowned in our historie. And me seemeth that the honor of Rome requireth of desert that we begin with the Romaines, because they haue in effecte borne awaie the mainprise of picked Souldiers, as the inheritors of the auncient vertue of their Countrey. Amongst whom in my daies the two principal Famelies, chief of the auncient Faction *Guelfa* and *Gebellina*, which were called *Ursini* and *Colonesi*, haue had each of them two most renowned: The Famely of *Ursina* had *Verginio* and *Nicolo*: the *Colonesi*, *Prospero*, and *Fabritio*. *Verginio*, in authoritie, riches, multitude of Souldiers, & in the magnificence of his house, being Captaine of all the Primates of *Italie*, ascended to the tipe of Dignitie: from which againe he fell, after the coming of King Charles into *Italie*, being taken with the Earle of *Pitigliano* at *Nola* by the French men, deceiued by the promise of the *Nolans* and by *Lewes d' Arsis* the French Captaine,

of Impreses.

Captaine, and was kept prisoner vntill the sedicious vprore hapned in the French Campe at *Tarro*, wherein he finely escaped the hands of those which garded him, being as then buſied about greater matters. Now the *Coloneſi* being vnder the conduct of the Cardinall *Aſcanio Sforza*, who at the beginning ſerued the French men: and being made a newe league betweene the Princes of *Europe*, they retourned to the ſeruice of the King *Ferandino*, *Proſpero* firſt, and then *Fabritio*, vowing themſelſe *Aragonians*.

Verginio alſo was inuited to go ſerue the ſame King, being offered a great pay, and to be recompenced with offices of honour and dignitie, as to be high Conſtable, which office was after ward geuen to *S. Fabritio*, with the gouernment of *Abruzzo Alba*, and *Tagliacozzo*: but he iudging it not beſeeming his honour, wilfully conſcended to the French, and rather accepted of their pay: although therein the *Urſini* vtterly diſliked his determination, becauſe it might be prejudiciall to the honour and ſtate of *Italie*, which then began againe to conſpire againſt France, fearing leaſt it ſhould become ſubiect to ſo puiſſant a nation. But he hardened with a fatale obſtinacie, addreſſed himſelſe with many other Captaynes of the ſame conſpiracie againſt king *Ferandino*: anſwering thoſe which diſſwaded him to the contrarie (as the ſeruants

A Discourse

Trouble doth
please me.

nants of the Pope, of the Duke *Lodouico*, and of the Lordes of *Venice*, who shewed him the daunger hee wilfully cast himselfe into, and therewithall willed him to waigh what great rewardes and benefites were offered him) sayd, I am like vnto the Camell, whose nature is this, that comming to a cleare riuer, drinks not of the water vntill first hee hath fouled it by trampling with his feete. And therefore I beare a Camell troubling a Riuer with this French mot, *Il me plait la trouble*. But his rash determination had rufull end. For being ouercome in this conflict besieged in *Atella*, and at length taken, died in prison in the Castell of *Ouo*. This receiued he the punishment of his paruerse enterprife.

The Earle of *Pitigliano*, being in pay with the Lords of *Venice*, in the warres of *Lombardie*, had for his *Impresa* a collar of Iron, called in Latin *Millus*, set ful of sharpe prickes, as we see about the necke of the Shepheards Mastiues to defende them from the biting of the Wolues, with this mot, *Sanciat & defendit* albeit this *Impresa* is to be seene at this daie at *Rome*, in the Pallace of *Nicosia* in possession of the *S.crs* of the house of *Vrsina*: and in the midst of this collar is this Posie, *Prius mori quam fidem fallere*: there also are figured two handes, which seeming to take holde of the Collar, are pearced with the sharpe prickes which are set thereupon: and in the midst there

of Imprefes.

there is depainted a Rose.

To the other former *Imprefe* are nothing inferiour those of the other two Brethren the *Colonesi*, *Prospero* and *Fabritio*, who at diuers times had sondry inuentions: some Militarie, and some amorous, according to their phantasies. For both of them euen to extreme old age, thought it no shame to be amorous, and especially *Prospero* who hauing placed his affection on a noble Ladie, vnto whose companie (to dislemble the secrete fauour which he receiued, and to auoyde suspition) he aduentured to bring a freende of his: which thing was vnadvisedly done, considering that women are almost all generally desirous of choice and chaunge, of whom she became inamourred, deeming him worthy the possession of her person: which *Prospero* perceiuing, and thereby receiuing no smal discomfort he tooke to his *Impresa* the Brasen Bull of *Perillus*, who was the first which experienced the torment that he him selfe had inuented, being commanded to be put therein (by the Edict of the tyrant *Phalaris*) and a great fire to be kindled vnderneath, where with yelling cries he ended his miserable life. And this did *Prospero*, thereby to signifie, that he himself was the cause of his owne misfortune. And the mot was this. *Ingenio expeior funera digna meo.*

Dom. Mee seemeth the soule of this gallant inuention had bin farre better after this manner,

My self was
cause of my
owne misfor-
tune.

A Discourse

maner, *Sponte contractum inexpicabile malum.*

Ion Truly that of *Fabritius*, excelled for brauerie, who perseuering in taking the French part, although inuited with promise of great rewardes, to participate with the whole consent of *Italie*, yet at the first he refused it, and therupon tooke for his *Impresa* a vessell made after the auncient forme, with this mot, *Samnitico nō capitur auro*: to signifie that he would not bee corrupted with coyne no more then was that *Fabritius* the auncient Romaine, with the profered golde of the *Samnites*, who were in league with *Pyrrhus*.

He also did beare an other, very commendable, which was the Touchstone, with this mot, *Fides hoc uno, virtusque probantur*: to importe that his vertue & faith should of al men bee knowne by touch and triall. This did he weare at the cōflict of *Rauenna*, where his valiaunt courage was manfully shewen, albeit he was there wounded and taken prisoner.

In the same warre *Marc' Antonio Columna* Nephewe to *Prospero*, who lay in garrison defending the Citie *Rauenna*, where he worthely behaued himself against the violent rage & terrible battery of *Mouis. de fois*, had a bowe of Palme wrethed with a bow of Cipres, with this mot, *ERIT ALTERA MERCES*: Meaning that he went to the warres either to winne victorie or loose his life. The Palme being borne in signe of Victorie, and the

of Imprefes.

The Cipresse worne at Funerallles . This man had all the giftes which either nature or fortune might bestow, to make a man singulare.

The same *Marc' Antonio* wore also an other in the warres of *Mirandola* and *Bologna*, wherein the Cardinal of *Pavia* was Legate, of nature proude and imperious, and the loftie minded Romaine not yeelding to be cōtrolled, but would execute euery duetie which pertayned to the warres himself, the rather for that he perceiued the Cardinall to vse dishonest dealing with the Duke of *Vrbis*, therefore he was after slaine of him. To manifest his noble minde he vsed for his *Impresa* the *Heron*, which bird in the time of raine flyeth so hie aboue the Cloudes, that she escapeth the wett, to the ende it may not fall on her back, and yet naturally vseth to bathe her in the little streames, content to haue the water vnder her, but not that it should fall vpon her. The *Impresa* was very delightfome to behold: for besides the braue shewe of the bird, there was figured the Sunne aboue the Cloudes, the birde betweene the Sunne and the Cloudes, in the middle region where raine and hayle are ingendred, belowe were Marish groundes with Sedge & other greene hearbes, but aboue all it was adorned with this goodly mot about the necke of the *Heron*, *Natura dictante feror.*

I remember also an other which he vsed
(as

A Discourse

(as one which greatly delighted in these ingenious inuentions) in the warres of *Verona*: which Citie was valiauntly defended by his manhoo de, against the force of both the French and Venetian Campes, which was a vesture in the middest of the fire, which notwithstanding burned not, as made of that Lint of *India*, which *Plinie* called *Albestin*, which maie bee purged from spots in the fire & not consumed, and it had this mot, *Semper pertinax*.

S. Mutio Colonna, the Nephewe of *S. Fabricio*, happely did immitate the prompt witt of *Marc' Antonio*, & was a valiaunt and prudent Knight, who for his desertes had of *Pope Iulio* the 20. and *Pope Leo* the 10. the companie of an hundred Launces, on whose vpper Armour and Ensignes he caused to bee figured an hande burning in the fire vpon an Aulter of Sacrifice with this Posie, *Fortia facere, & pati Romanū est*. alluding his owne proper name to the auncient *Mutius*, who intending to haue slaine *Porfenna* King of *Toscane*, and for that his hande failed in striking an other, he burnt it of, in the sight of *Porfenna*: which was so merueilous, (that as the Poet saith) *Hanc spectare manū Porfenna non potuit*.

The *Colonesi* bare altogether one *Impresa* for them all, at such time, as *Pope Alexander* shewed extremitie to the Romaine Baronyr whereupon they were constrained with Ihon
the

of Imprefes.

the Cardinall to flye *Rome*, and parte of them tooke *Naples*, and parte *Scicill*: in which case they were thought to make a better departure then had done the *Ursini*, for that they had rather loose their robe and dignitie then to commit their liues to the mercie of bloodie tyrants, as did they: whereupon they became vndone and miserably strangled. Their *Impresa* was to signifie, that although they were persecuted by hard fortune, and their former power so greatly abated, yet liued they, and in hope that when these boysterous stormes were past, they should againe haue to reioyce: and this it was: Certaine Bulrushes figured in the middest of a Riuer, whose nature is to bowe & not to breake, neither with the violence of waue nor winde, & their mot was, *Flectimur non frangimur undis*.

Dom. Sith you haue recited the deuises of these Romaine Barons, it seemeth also convenient that you say somewhat of other Princes and Captaines of *Italie*, and likewise of Forainers, if happely they come to your memorie.

You. But first hearken to that which *S. Bartolomeo Aluiano*, a Captaine stout & valiaunt, but very vnfortunate, vsed to beare on his Ensigne. He was a great defeder of *Ursina* factio: he manfully ouercame *Bracciano*, the Châpiõ of Pope *Alexander*: And tooke *Viterbiũ*, spoyling all which tooke part with *Iohn Gatto* (in fauour

A Discourse

fauiour of the *Maganzeſi*) ſaying they were the peſtilent venome of the Citie: and after the death of this *Iohn Gatto* their Captayne, he bare in his enſigne an Vnicorn, whoſe propertie is to haue power againſt poyſon, figuring a fountayne all inuironed with Todes & Serpents, and the Vnicorne putting in his horne into the Riuer before hee drinke, to purge the venome, with this mot about his necke, *Venena pello*. The ſame Enſigne was loſt in the Battle of *Vincentia*, after that this *Aluiano* had a great ſpace defended him againſt the fury of his enemy: *Marc' Antonio da monte*, holding it in his armes, and neuer leauing it, yntill he fell downe dead.

For the ſame *Aluiano* was compoſed alſo another *Impreſa*, by *Cotta* of *Verona* his Poet, after the ſacking of *Vincentia*, whereof it was ſayde the Purueyour or Paymayſter Maſter *Andreo Loredan*, was the principal cauſe, who at that inſtant when the *Ceſarian* enemies being put to flight, run armed with this breſt-plate of Crimſin Veluet, into the Pauillion of the Generall, and finding him ſitting at the Table with many other captaynes, conſulting what were beſt to bee done: he began to lay before them their cowardiſe, and long lingering, in not purſuing the Enemy: Albeit they were of this minde, that the enemies which ſlye ought to haue a bridge of ſiluer. But he with greate inſtancie vrged them that they ſhould

of Impreses.

should not so suffer the to escape their hands, considering that they had alreadie turned their backes. By the braue and furious words of this *Loridano*, were many incensed to pursue them: and by that meanes were the *Venetians* ouercome, and *Loridano* left dead in the fielde, receiuing the iust penaltie of his rashe attempt. Whereupō *Cotta* exhorted his Lord, that in stead of the Vnicorne that he had lost in that Battel, to beare in his Ensigne a Gander in the middest of certaine Swannes, with this brieft about his necke: *Obstrepuunt inter olores*: to signifie that it was vnfit and ill beseeeming that a Senator with a lōg gowne should presume to iudge of warlike affayres among Captaines. But this deuise *Aluiano* refused, (albeit greatly commending it) for that he would not seeme to scorne the sayd *Loridano* being dead, in comparing him to a Gander.

Now will I speake of others, renowned with the fame and glorie, which they by their worthie deedes haue atchiued: amongst whō I reckon as chiefe *Francesco Gonzago* Lorde of *Mantua*, who became most famous in the Battell at *Tarro*, and by the Conquest which he got ouer the Kingdome of *Naples*, for the King *Ferandino*. This *Gonzaga* being of malicious enuie accused before the *Venetian* Senate, for whom he was Captaine general: and after he had iustified himself, he vsed for his *Impresa* a Furnace wherein golde is tried, set

A Discourse

on the fire, with certaine stemmes of golde therein, with this Posie out of the holy Scripture: *Probaſti me Domine, & cognouiſti.* willing also, *Seſſionem meā* following in the ſame ſentence to be vnderſtoode. His ſlaunderous accuſers obiected, that he coueted to ſit on two ſeates, that is to ſay, ſerue the *Venetians* in the warres, and alſo *Lodonico Sforza* his brother in law, in taking the aduantage of the time after the Battell, ceaſing to purſue the French men halfe conquered, in which caſe he neuer offended, for it was all forged by the *Earle Gaiazzo*, to pleaſure the French men, and in diſpight of the Duke *Lodonico*, for *Gaiazzo* deſired not to ſee the *Venetian* Lordes Conquerers: to the ende, that if the French men had bene ouercome, they had not ſo victoriously haue gone to occupie the ſtate of *Mil-lan*, of them, deſired euer ſince the time of Duke *Phillip* and his father.

Amongſt all the famous Captaines, the Lorde *Giouan, Giacopo Trinuſio*, was of ſoueraigne wit, and in great reputation, who from the beginning as an Enemy to the Duke *Lodonico Sforza*, ſeeing him ſeeke the uſurping of the Dukedome, which was the right of his Nephewe, he ioyned with the King of *Aragona* open Enemy to *Lodonico*, for the ſame cauſe. And to ſignifie that in the gouernment of his Countrey he was not to yeeld one iote to him: he bare for his *Impreſa* a quaddret of
Marble,

of Impreses.

Marble, with a stile of Iron plâted in the midst, opposite to the Sunne, which was the aũcient Ensigne of his house, with this mot, *Nō cedit umbra soli*: Although the Sunne turne about neuer so often the stile alwaies yeeldeth his shadowe.

Alphonso Duke of *Ferara*, a Captaine of resolute Prowesse and admirable constancie, when he went to the Batell of *Rauenna*, did beare a Globe or round boule of mettles, full within of artificiall fire, which powred forth flames by certaine creueis, and it was so cunningly contriued, that at due time and place the fire would issue forth, making great confusion of those, which were within the daunger thereof. The inuention wanted a Posie which was afterwarde added by the famous *Aristo*, and it was *Loco & tempore*: and then trāslated into French to giue it a better shew after this maner, *A lieu é temps*. Valiaunt did he shewe himself in this bloodie battell, placing his Artillarie in such sorte, that he slewe much people. In place and time.

After that by the death of *Pope Leo*, the Duke of *Vrbis* had recouered his estate, being reconciled with the *Baglioni*, and in frendship with the Cardinall of *Medicis*, who at that time gouerned the state of *Florence*, was ordained generall for that common wealth. And on a time Master *Thomas Maufrede* his Embassadour, requested mee to deuise some

E. y.

Imprese

A Discourse

Impresa for his Standard: whereupon I caused to be figured a Palme, hauing the top therof weighed downe with the heauie poize of a great Marble tied thereunto, to signifie that which *Plinie* saith of the saide tree, being of this nature that it returneth to the former fashion be it depressed with neuer so greate a waight, mounting it vp in time, and drawing it on high: adding therunto this mot, *Inclina-
rare surgit*: alluding to the vertue of the Duke, which neuer had beene oppressed, though sometimes by the fury of Fortune for a time abased. This inuention pleased him well, and he ordained that it should be set on his Standard: albeit vpo certaine occurrents he came not to take the office of Generall.

Dom. I am glad that you are begun to recite some *Imprese* which you your selfe haue deuised, whereof I haue seene diuers in the Chamber where you studie.

Iou. In trueth I haue made many in my time, but I shame to recount the all, sith there are some which haue those defects which are peculiare to humaine actions. For as I said at the beginning, the framing of an *Impresa* is the aduenture of a readie and phantasticall braine: and it is not in our power, although with long studie, to forge an inuention, fitting the humour of him which shall weare it, or aduaucing the credite of him which composeth it: for therein he aduectureth his fame,
being

of Imprefes.

being accompted learned . And in effect it is one thing to faie well , in shewing a conceite, and an other thing, to expresse the same with a soule and bodie, that it may bee altogether eurrât without any error. For I my self which haue made so many for others , desirous greatly, but yet in vaine, to finde the body of a subiect to this mot, *Fato prudentia minor:* wherein I fare like the Shoemaker , who fitteth with newe and nete shoes euery other mans foote, and is faine himself to weare his owne broken and patched: for neuer could I finde out subiect of any thing which satisfie me. But first before I shew you those of mine owne composing, in respect of modestie I wil recite some of other men.

Dom. I pray you haue regard that you vtter no more which shal seeme maymed or vnperfect.

Ion. I shall now recount those which shall be perfectly good , sith heretofore wee haue bene shewed such as haue bene ridiculous: and to prosecute our purpose I say, that the *Impresa* of *S. Ottauiano Fregoso* at the warres of *Bolona & Modena* , was accounted ingenious, but very extrauigant considering the picture: for he wore a great many Ciphers *Sables* in a field : Or in the borders of the vtter part of the Bards of his horses. Which Charecters of them selues , in the art of numbring signifie nothing , but hauing a figure of number set

E iii,

before

A Discourse

before them, they make a multitude almost infinite: as for example placing but an vnite before the said Ciphers, they signifie a *Million Millions*. Aboue the border was written this. *Hoc per se nihil est, sed si minimū addideres maximum fiet*: Signifying that with a little ayde he should recouer the State of *Genoua*, which whilom was in the possession of *Signior Pietro* his father, who there was slaine, & this *Signior Ottauiano* at that time banished, little at all ayded by the Duke of *Urbino*: but yet of sufficient hope to bee restored to his house, as afterward he was by *Pope Leo*. Trueth it is that the Posie is too long, but yet the nature of the wittie subiect doth beare it singular wel.

Signior Hierosin Adorno, who tooke *Genoua*, by the force and strength of the *Cesarians*, and chased from thence the foresaid *Signior Grego*, for that he making himself of *Fraunce*, gaue ouer the gouernmēt of the Dukedome, reseruing but only that title of *Gouernour*. This *Adorno* was a youth of singulare hope, and adorned with great vertues: but enuious death too sone cut of his desired life: he, as it is the flipperie nature of that fraile age, was ardently inamoured of a Ladie decked with notable beautie, and adorned with rare chastity: & on a time he requested me to inuēt an *Impresa* to this tenor: how that he thought and verely beleened, that the obtayning of her fauour would be the attayning of his felicitie:

licitie:& contrarywise, the losing of the same
the bereauing of his life, in yeelding to him a
desired death to ende the tedious trauailes
which he had sustained, either in the pursutes
of loue or practises of warre: which I hearing
there came to my remembraunce that which
Iulius Obsequens wrighteth in his Booke *de*
prodigijs. The lightning to bee of this nature;
that comming after greate trauailes and dis-
graces, it will make an ende of them, but du-
ring the time of happie fortune it bringeth
damage, ruine or death: and so I figured the
lightning of *Iupiter*, after that forme as we see
it in antique Monuments, with this brieft a-
bout it, *Expiabit aut obruet*. The last parte of
which Posie he shortly after verified, depar-
ting this life in *Venice*, where he sat chief Em-
bassadour for the Emperour.

But sith we are entred to mention the wor-
thies of *Genoua*, I will rehearse three of myne
owne which I made at the request of two
Gentlemen of the house of *Flisca, Simibaldo, &*
Otiobuono, whereof one was to signifie the re-
uenge, which they had of the death of their
Brother *Girobamo*, cruelly murdered by the
Fregosi cōpetitors of the state: for the which
these lost their liues, *Zaccaria Fregoso, S. Fre-*
gosino, Lodonico, and Guido: which reuenge did
something recomforte them for the losse of
their Brother: saying, that their enemies had
not much whereof to vaunt, in ysing such

A Discourse

erueltie against them: being a thing not vsual among the *Fregosi*, *Adorni*, and *Flischi*, to imbrue their handes in the blood of their foraine enemies, but a thing lawfull to contend for the principallitie in ciuile contention among the selues, or els in open warre. I therefore figured an Elephant assailed of a Dragon, who twinding about the legges of his enemy, is worit by his venemous byting to empoysen his belly, wherewith he dieth. But the Elephant by nature knowing the daunger, trayleth him along the ground till he come to some stone or blocke, whereunto leauing himself he rubbeth there against the Dragon that he dieth. The deuise had a goodly shew, and the mot did sufficiently bewray the signification thereof: which was in Spanishe after this maner, *Non vos alabertis*: to shewe vnto the *Fregosi*, that they had not to boast of the vilanie committed against their blood.

You neede
not boast.

I also composed another for the *Flischi* vpon this occasion: They being in conference and consulting to take the Emperours part, and to ioyne with the *Adorni*: whereupon many which were affectioned vnto them and also their seruants, aduised them not hastily to resoluethem on this enterprise: for that the forces of the King of Fraunce were great, and that *S. Ottauino Fregoso* had got them on his side, and had set firme footing in the gouernment, and therefore was well provided
to

of Imprefes.

to defende himselfe againſt any which ſhould offer him the onſet, at that time: To who they replied, that they knewe how and when to put in praſtiſe ſuch exploites. And vpon this they demaunded me ſome *Impreſa*, and preſently there came to my remembraunce that which *Plinie* writeth of the *Alcions*, certaine birdes, which by inſtinſt of nature, attend *Solſtitiũ vernale*, as moſt commodious for them, knowing the iuſt time when the calme ſeaſon, and quiet ſeaſ ſhall bee, which duellie hapneth once in the yeare, and is called of the common ſorte S. Martins Sommer, in which ſeaſon the ſayde *Alcions* build their neſtes, lay their Egges, and hatch their yong in the middeſt of the Seas, hauing happie leaſure by the quiet calme. Wherefore the daies wherein the *Alcion* breedeth are called *Alcionides*. I cauſed then to bee figured a cleere Skie, with a calme Sea, & thereon a neſt, from the middeſt to either ende ſomewhat reared vp of ſome high, with the neckes of the birds looking ouer the prow being of merueilous ſtraunge colours, as azure, red, white, greene, and yealowe, with this mot aboute them in French, *Nous ſçauons bien le temps*: as much to ſay, as we knowe well the time, when we haue to giue the onſet on our enemies. And ſo it happely fell out that they returned to their poſſeſſions reuēged on their aduerſaries, with the good *Augure* of theſe *Alcion* birds. This deuife

A Discourse

deuise was depainted in many places of their stately Pallace at *Viola*, before it was by publique edict ruined.

I made also an other which peradventure may better like you, for *Sinibaldo Flischo*, concerning a matter of loue, which began now to florish in wanton peace, after the restless toyles of warre. For this *Sinibaldo* seruing a Ladie, who began to enter into some suspitiō of him, seeing him, euery where to frequent other gallant Dames, according to the custome of the Gentlemen of *Genoua*, whereof she sharply oftentimes reprovued him, complaining of his vnpure and corrupted faith. Whereupon, he desirous to clere himselfe of that suspicion, requested mee to inuent some pretie deuise concerning his case. And I figured him a Needle touched with an Adamant, applied to a Sea carde with a Compasse ther-vnto, and aboue the cleere azure Skie with Starres, with this mot, *ASPICIT VNAM*: To shewe that although in the heauens were very many faire Starres, yet there was but one regarded of the Adamant, which is onely the Pole starre: and so he reconciled himself with his Mistrisse, whom he entirely loued. And albeit he sported with others, yet was it not in earnest, but rather to couer his faithful affection, vnder the vaile of a pretended loue.

Dom. Well my Lorde, sith there is not to
be

of Imprefes.

bee obserued any order, in rehearsing these thinges which are extraordinary: therefore I praie you prosecute those *Impresa* which shall come next to hande, whether they bee amorous or touching Armes: although in my conceipt it were better to dispatch first those pertaining to Armes, and to end your discourse with the sweete inuentions of loue.

Jon. There commeth now to my remembrance one of *S. Gion Paule Baglione*, a man of greate wisdom and expert in feates of Armes, very affable and of such courtly eloquence, as they vse in the *Perugian* tongue, but yet passing subtile and craftie, hauing aspired to bee (as it were) Tyrant of *Perugia*, and Gouerner of the *Venetian* Campe. Howbeit, better had it bin for him, to haue kept him quiet with honor at home in his Countrey: for *Pope Leo* (prouoked by the infinite complaintes, made by the chiefe of the famelie of the *Baglioni*) trayned him to *Rome*, by smoth entreaties, whether whē he came he cut of his head. And so became his *Impresa* cleane dashed and most vaine: which was a *Griphon argent* in a *felde Genles*, with this mot, *Vnguibus & rostro, atque alis armatus in hostem*: whereupon wittely sayd *S. Gentile Baglione*: this great bird had not the vse of his winges, as at other times it hath to auoyde the ginne, which was layde for it.

I remember also an other which I made
for

A Discourse

for *Girolamo Mattei* a *Romayne* Captayne of the Horsemen pertayning to the Garde of *Pope Clement*, a man of noble courage: who hauing with great patience, perseuerance, and dissembling, attended a time to slay *Girolamo*, the Nephewe of the Cardinall of *Valle*, to the end to reuenge the death of *Paluzzo* his brother, by him cruelly mured in a ciuile contention. And hauing requested me to find him some *impresa* to this sence: that a noble minde hath powre to digest with time euery greuous iniurie. And I figured for him an *Austritch* deuouring an Horsenaile, with this mot. *Spiritus durissima coquit*. So much was his notable reuenge commended, that his very enemy of the house of *Valle* accepted of an agreement, cancelling all cause of iarres betweene the two famelies, and the *Pope Clement* pardoned the homicide, and made him captayne.

The *Austritch* also serued me, by reason of the diuersitie of her nature, and her diuers properties, for a nother deuise, which I had for my Lord the Marquesse of *Vasto*, at such time as the *Emperour* and the *Pope* assembled at *Bologna*, and consulted of the affayres of *Italie*: where was made Captaine of the league, for the defence of all estates, and the preservation of peace *Antonio da Leua*, which degree rather seemed to appertayne to the Marquesse then to him. But *Pope Clement* displea-
fed

of Imprefes.

ted for some dammages receiued by the Span-
nish *Fauterie* in *Piacentino* and *Parmegiano*,
where the Souldiers liuing at their own plea-
sure (the Marquise not reltrayning their ouer
great libertie) pillaged almost al the country,
whereof the *Pope* would be reuenged in hin-
dring his dignitie, which thing the Marquise
taking greeuously, complayned of the *Pope*
in this maner: I may repent me that I was
not at the sacking of *Rome*, when I departed
and left my Souldiers, and like a true *Italian*
refused to be Captayne. For I could not bee
present at the iniuries and damages done to
the *Pope*. Whereupon on a day as I recomfor-
ted him he sayd vnto me: were it not that I
had bene ayded by myne owne deserts, to at-
tayne to be Generall of this inuincible band
of footmen, it had not fayled but some had
put in their foote before me. And thereupon
willed me to make him some *Impresa*, and me
seemed that the *Austritch Cursant* made ve-
ry much to his purpose, who as *Plinie* saith, is
accustomed to vse her Wings as Sayles, ex-
celling in swiftnes of running all other crea-
tures. And albeit Nature hath given her
Wings, yet hath she not the vse of them as
haue other birds. And vnto this *Austritch* I
added this mot. *Si sursum non efferor alijs, sal-
tem cursu prateruehor omnes.*

Also I gaue the proportion of the same
birde to the Earle *Pietro Nauarro*, when by
the

A Discourse

the capitulatio of peace, he was deliuered out of the prison of *Castell Nuovo*, and came to *Rome*, where I began with him to haue very strinct familiaritie, thereby to be informed of diuers poyntes concerning my Historie touching humaine affayres which I was then to write, wherein he curteously satisfied me, as one most couetous of his honour.

And hauing recounted all his victories and misfortunes, he requested of mee an *Impresa* vppon certaine subiectes which I liked not: wherennto I replied. Sir, you neede not seeke farther then your owne noble deedes for an *Impresa*: for I hauing made you renowned in my historie, as the glorious inuenter of that admirable and supernaturall arte of Vndermining, which shall immortalize your name: as there where you caused most miraculously the Castle of *Ouo* at *Naples* to bee blowne vp into the aire: I would not haue you part from this, being a thing which hath purchased vnto you surpassing honour and singulare reputation. Whercupō he confessing it to be true, aunswered me: I praie see if you can finde me one to this effect. Then came there to my remembraunce that which some write of the *Austritch*, which doth not hatch her Egges as doe other birdes by conering on them, but doth accomplishe it with the effectuall raies of her eyes. So I figured the *Austritch* Male and Female, stedfastly looking vppon their Egges

of Imprefes.

Egges with the raies paſſing from their eyes to their Egges, with this mot, *Diuerſa ab illis virtute valemus*. Exprefling therby the renowned commendation of his wit in the inuention of Vndermining, which with the violence of the fire, is in effect equall to the infernall Furies. This deuife pleased him well, and he willingly accepted of it.

Dom. Truely my Lord theſe your *Anſtriches* with their diuers properties, haue ſerued paſſing fitlie in theſe three farre different *Impreſe*, & I doubt whether any of the reſt which remaine can excell them, but it may bee they maie diſgrace others, composed of noble wittes, which you ſhall hereafter recite.

Jon. I am not ſo arrogant to aſſume ſo much to my ſelf, as to make ſuch which ſhall excell, nay rather couteruaile the deuifes of others: as namely of that of the Marquiſe of *Pescara*, the firſt time he was Generall of all the light Horſemen in the Battell of *Rauenna*, where to defende his Enſigne, he was greeuouſly wounded, and being founde amidſt the dead Carcaſſes was taken priſoner by the French men, he bare in his Enſigne a *Spartan* Targar, with this mot, *Aut cum hoc aut in hoc*: According to the ſame which that couragious woman gaue vnto her Sonne going to the Battell of *Mantina*, to ſignifie vnto him, that he ſhould bee reſolute in this, either to combat ſo valiantly, therby to purchaſe victorie, or els dying

A Discourse

ing like a Gentleman or worthie the name of a *Spartan*, to bee caried dead in his Target to his house, according to the auncient vsage of *Greece*: which thing *Virgill* seemeth to note in this verse: *Impositum scuto reserunt pallantia frequentes*: which also may be gathered by the wordes of the famous *Epaminondas*, who being in a Battell wounded to death, and caried forth by his Souldiers, earnestly demaunded whether his Target were saued, and aunswere being made, that it was, hee euen in the extremitie of death shewed some signe of reioycing.

Without trasgressing the prescribed limits.

The French Captaines haue beene much delighted in Militarie and amourous *Imprese*, amongst whom, the best renoumed, and who deserued to be soueraigne at Armes, was the Lorde of *Trimouille*, who being Conquerer in the Battell of *S. Aulbin* in *Bretaigne*, where was take prisoner the Duke of *Orleans*, which after was King *Lewes*: had for his *Impresa* a wheele with this mot, *Sans point sortir hors de l'orniere*: to signifie that he alwaies kept himselfe vp-right in the seruice of his King, without going astray for any inconueniēce which might happen. He was a Captaine of absolute courage, in so much that being 60. yeres of age, honorably died fighting, in the fight of his King, when he was ouercome and taken in the Battell at *Pania*.

There was also among the chief Captaines which

of Imprefes.

which came into Italie famous and renowned, *Lewes* of *Luxembourg* of the race of the Emperour *Henry*, who died at *Bonconuente*, whose Sepulture you saw in the great Church at *Pisa*. It was this *Lewes*, to whom the Duke *Lodowico Sforza*, yeelded himself being betrayed by the *Suiffers* at *Nonara*, hoping to haue by him or by his meanes some comforte in his calamitie. He (to come to our purpose) had for his *Impresa* a Sunne, Or, in a fielde azure, inuironed with thick Cloudes, with this mot, *Obstantia nubila soluet*: to inferre that he hauing endured diuers aduersities, after the beheading of his Father the high Constable of Fraunce, hoped notwithstanding that by his valure and vertue, that euen as the Sunne with his skalding beames dissolues the Cloudes, so should hee vanquish all that was aduerse to his shining vertues.

There succeeded this Gouvernour in *Lombardie*, *Charles* of *Ambouse*, called, for the dignitie of the office he bare in the Kings court, great Master, and Lord of *Chamon*: He was of a pleasaunt disposition, and much addicted to loue, yet by his visage a man would haue iudged him rigorous, and by his Cholorique wordes fierce and angry: notwithstanding he delighted to courte Ladies, and tooke greate pleasure, in feasting, banquetting, dauncing, and in Comedies: which life was not liked of King *Lewes*. For he lay then sporting in these
F.i. delights

A Discourse

delightes when hee should haue succoured *Mirandula*, besieged and taken by *Pope Julius*. He gaue for his *Impresa* a sauage man with a Clubbe in his hand, and aboue him this Latin posie, *Mitem animum agresti sub tegmine seruo*: thereby to assure the Ladies, that he was not so rigorous as he seemed to the outward vewe.

The foresayde inuention to many seemed good: but notable in my conceipt was that of *Francesco Senfauerino* Earle of *Gaiaza*, who in emulation of his Brother *Galeazzo* at the comming of the French men into Italie, departed from the Duke *Lodouico*, and ioyned with them, not without breach of his honor: for that such a departure caried some suspect. His *Impresa* was set on the Coate armour of a hundred Launces, which he obtayned of the King, & it was the *Tranayle* wherein Smithes vse to put in wilde horses when they shoe the, with this mot, *Pour dompter folie*: to signifie that he would tame a certaine enemy of his, which was of the like wilfull nature.

To tame
follic.

There was also among the French men a famous Captaine of tried valure named *Edward Stuart*, of the blood royall of *Scotland*; called my Lord of *Aubinie*: he as being Cosin to King *James the fourth*, gaue a *Lyon rampant* in a fiede *argent*, all sowne with buckles, imbrodered on his Cotes and Ensignes with this mot, *Distantia iungit*: Signifying that he
was

of Impreses.

was the meane and the buckle to hold vnited the King of Scots and the King of Fraunce, to counteruaile the forces of the King of England, the naturall enemye of the French men and Scots.

Dom. It seemeth good to me, my Lord, that you returne againe to our *Italians*, at the least to those (as we say) of the second ranke, since you haue alreadie from the beginning spokē of the most famous, to whose glorie few dare presume to aspire, now at this daie: for neither the *Colonesi* nor *Vrsini*, haue any of their progenie which wil tread their steppes in the practise of Cheualrie. And it behoueth those Princes which seeke to equall them selues in honor with *Francesco Gonzaga*, *Alphonse d'Este*, *Giacopo Triuultio*, or with the *Signiori Regnicoli*, to striue with restles labour and industrie: but now they, it seemeth, are in declining: for that at this day, honors and dignities, the rewardes of Cheualrie, are giuen into the handes of Straungers. And if the Earle *Ferrante Sensauerino*, Prince of *Salerna*, a man decked with notable vertues, doth not resuscitate the honour of his Kingdome, I see not what hope there is of other Princes in *Italie*.

Jon. There is some hope in deede of him, whereof he gaue great likelihood in the Battel of *Cerqola*, where it was manifest that thorough his pollicie retiring a little back, he made in greate parte frustrate the victorie of the

French men. And it maie be said that he preferred the state of *Millan*, and *Piemont* for the Emperour, which was no small commendation in so great disgraces.

Dom. Tell me my Lorde, doth this Prince beare any *Impresa*, in my opinion he should not want being so gallant a Knight.

Iou. Truly I neuer saw any Ensigne of his, neither any amorous deuise, whereof I meruaile, hauing in his house the excellent Poet *Bernardo Tasso*. Also in his countrey the Duke of *Amalfi* of the house of the *Piccolomini*, a courteouse and valiaunt Knight, and aboue all an excellent Rider, and very skilfull in iudging of a good and couragious horse, being exhorted in my presence by the Lord *Marquise of Vasto* his Cosin, to leaue the pleasures of *Sienna*, whereof he was Governour, and to goe with him vnto the warres of *Piemont*: he answered, the spirit was willing but the flesh was weake: but what meaneth (saith he) that place of Scripture, *Nemo nos conduxit*. Vpon that the *Marquise* made him Generall of the light horfmen in the warres of *Piemont*. And the Duke before he departed requested me a deuise for his Ensigne, to this effect that the *Marquise* had before saide vnto him, that three things were conuenient for him which should take on him the like office, which are courage, liberalitie, and vigilancie: Doe not you (sayd I) put him in remembraunce of liberalitie,

of Imprefes.

beralitie, neither courage, fith he hath learned them both of you, neither of vigilancie, for that he is of this nature to rife before day, either to goe to the chace or at least to get him out of his bed: whereat he fmiling fayd: the vigilancie I meane comprehendeth all care and industrie a man vfeth, to the end he be not taken at vnawares, or els to feeke how to take his enemy at the aduantage. Wherevpo I figured for his *Imprefa* a Crane holding vp her left clawe, wherein ſhe claspeth a ſtone for a remedie againſt ſleepe: which thing *Plinie* recordeth of theſe Birdes, being mercurious watchfull: and thereunto added this briefe, *Officium natura docet.*

Dom. Tell me my Lorde, were there none amongſt the Nobilitie of the *Regnicoli* more auncient then this man which did beare any goodly deuife?

Iou. I remember but two, the one of *Andrea di Capua* Duke of *Tremoli*, and the other of *Tomaſo Caraffa* Earle of *Matalone*. The Duke in his flowring age, being made Captaine generall of *Pope Iulio*, died in *Cmita Caſtellana*, as was thought by poyſon, giuen him of ſome which enuied his honor. He bare for his *Imprefa* a bundle of darting Iauelines, to ſignifie that he wanted not weapons to keepe the enemies from approaching him, his mot was *Fortibus non deerunt.*

The Countie of *Metalone*, the Generall

A Discourse

of King *Ferandino*, had for his deuise *Romaine* Ballance, with this mot of the holy scripture, *Hoc fac & vines* : which seemed very extrauagant, for that the Ballance serueth to waigh many things: and it was skorned by *Mons. di Persi* Brother to *Mons. d' Alegria*, who discófiting the *Aragonian* Campe at *Eboli* got the Ensigne of the Generall, and sayd : in good faithe my Enemie hath not obserued that which was written about his Ballace: for that he hath not well waighed his forces with mine.

And sith we are entred among the *Neapolitans*, whose Princes seeme to degenerate fró their auncesters in not going to the warres, which I think is because the honors and dignities due vnto them are giuen to straungers: yet I say there wáteth not men of the second forme, both noble and valiaunt, who by their valure aspire to honour : Amongst whom is *Signior Gion Baptista Castaldo*, famous for a thousand freshe and notable experiences, being General of the Campe of *Charles* the Emperour, obtayning great praise for his enterprises at *Germanie*, amounting to the honour of Liutenaunt and Captaine for the King of the *Romaines* in the affayres of *Transilvania* against the *Turkes* and the *Valacchi*. This *Castaldo*, all the time that the whole warres endured, against the French men in *Piemoat*, he would not be there, seeing that the Marquise
of

of Imprefes.

of *Vasto* did distribute al the honorable Offices to ill experienced Souldiers, and therfore liued aloofe at *Millan*: declaring that the Marquise did worke thinges against nature, to make all Nations to wonder at his disorderly dealing. And thereupon willed me to compose him some *Impresa*, and I figured him the Mount *Aetna* of *Sicilia*, whose top burneth casting out violent flames of fire, and a little belowe hath the grounde all couered with Snow, not farre from that a vastie place full of burnt and consumed stones, and at the foote thereof lyeth a most pleasaunt & fruitfull soyle: adding thereunto this mot, *Natura maiora facit*: Alluding to the disorder of the Marquise in bestowing the honours of the felde. Thus he became stayned with the reproache of vnskilfulnesse and want of Indgement, in preferring such as he thought might commaund him: and putting by, so valiaunt a Captaine, as was this *Castaldo*.

Dom. Now I pray you my Lorde what are the other *Imprese* which I haue seene depainted in your Gallery?

Ion. There is among other, that of the excellent and neuer sufficiently commended Lady the Marquise of *Piscara*, *Vittoria Colonna*, to whom I accompt my selfe infinitely bound, as I haue shewed to the worlde in the life of her inuincible Spouse, the Lorde Marquise of *Piscara*. This Lady, albeit she lead a chaste and

3
A Discourse

sober life, vertuous and liberall towards every man. Yet there wanted not enuious and malignant persons, which did molest and disturb her well disposed mynd. But cōforting her selfe with this : that they which thought to harme her, hurt them selues : which prooued most true by diuers reasons which are not here to be vttered. Therefore I figured her certayne Rockes standing in the middest of a turbulent Sea, beating against them with boysterous waues : with this brife added aboue it. *Conantia frangere frangunt*. As much to say, that the Rocks of their firme force and strength, repell the furious surges of the raging Sea, breaking and consuming them into froth. And this *Impresa* bearing a gallant shew I caused to be figured in my house.

And sith we are entred to speake of Women, I will also shewe you another which I made for the Lady Marquise of *Vasto, Maria d' Aragone*. Who was wont to say, that as she her selfe made singulare account of her honor and chastitie, so not onely would she preserue it in her owne person, but also take great care that none of her gentlewomen and seruants should, rechiefly corrupted, transgresse the limits of honestie. And thereupon set downe a straight order in her house, to remoue all occasions both from her men and women, of seeking to defile themselves or their honour. And therefore I made her that *Impresa* which
you

of Imprefes.

You fo greatly commended in my Gallery, which is two bundels of rype *Millet*, bound together with this mot. *Servari & servare meū est*. For the *Millet* is of fuch nature, that not only it gardes it felfe from al corruption, but alfo preferues other thinges from putrifying which lye neere it, as the *Rubarbe* and *Caufire*: which precious things the *Apothecaries* keepe in boxes full of *Millet*, to the ende they may not be confumed.

Dom. I am gladde that you are difcended from Captaynes to treat of Women: which alfo is the more pertinent to the purpofe, for that thefe two were the wiues of moft honorable knights.

Iou. Hereupon I call to mynde a beautiful dame, the loue of *Odelta diffois*, called *Monsig. di Lutrec*, who on a time merely sporting with him fayd, that he was noble and valiant, but too too prowde, wherein peradventure ſhe tould the trueth. For when diuers of the richeſt *Seigneurs* of *Milan* came in the morning to his houſe to ſalute him, without putting of his Bonnet, or with any other geſture of curteſie or humanitie, hardly would he dayne to ſhewe them a merry countenance, which thing brought him into reproche and contempt with the Nobilitie of *Milan*. Whereupon he tooke occaſion (in ſteede of a Cowe, *Gueles* with Bees, the auncient Armes of his houſe) to figure a large Chimney, and therein

A Discourse

a great fire, with this mot *Dou'è gran fuoco è gran fumo*. To inferre an answer to the Lady, that where there is a fiery courage ioyned with Nobilitie, there must also be a great smoke of pryde: Wherefore it is necessarie, that great estates, take especiall regard that they commit nothing to cause them to bee hated of the common people, as was *Theodoro Triunfio*, who hauing bin long a complaying among the French men, and *Aragonians* in the kingdome of *Naples*, was esteemed wise and politike, rather for speaking litle in Counsailes and assemblies, then for combatting in Skirmishes, he bare for his deuise only fīue yeares of corne, without any mot, being a man litle liberall either in hospitalitie or rewarding Souldiers, and of small curtesie in affayres of peace, which brought him into disdayne with the *Venetian* Lords, for when he was generall, that they determined to change him for *Marc' Antonio Colunno*. And therefore Master *Andre Gitti*, puruoyer of the campe, vouchsafed to bestowe on him a bitter bob after the conflict of *Bicocea*: saying, our Generall goeth very ill prouided for victuals, carrying but the prouision of fīue eares of corne with him, to whome replied Master *Cesar Viola* his Standard bearer, a gentleman of *Milan*: meruayle not thereat Sinior pouruoyer, for that our Captaine liueth with a thin diet, putteth out to credit, and after payeth himselfe with

of Imprefes.

with ready coyne. But these corne eares of *Theodoro* reduce to my memorie, a deuise which I made for the Marquise of *Vasto*, whē after the death of *Antonio da Leua*, he was chosen Generall for the Emperour Charles the fifth, saying that he had scarce ended the toyle and trauayles which he had induted in attayning the Captayneship of the Fauterie, but that newe cause of troubles began to spring, the chardge thereof being almost vn-supportable. Thereupon, conformable to his purpose I figured him two Sheues of rype Corne with this brieife. *Finiunt pariter renouantque labores*. Signifying therby, that scarce is the corne fully ripe, but that the Plowmans restles toyle is renued, againe prouiding for another Haruest, and the rather was this agreeable to the subiect of the Marquise, for that his great grandfather *Don Roderico d' Aualos*, high Constable of *Castile* did beare the Sheffe of corne which he wan in Battayle.

Also not long before he had an other notable deuise inuented by Master *Gualtier Corbet* Senate of *Milan*, vpon certayne talke had with the sayde Marquise, who greatly desired to be generall (as afterward he was) that hee might wholly shew his valour, without hauing his deserued prayse communicated with the other Captayne which was in authoritie aboue him, saying that he had prooued, that many of his owne exploytes, in feates of Armes

A Discourse

mes were attributed either to the Marquise of *Piscara*, or els to *Senior Prospero*, or *Antonio da Lena* : and that now he hoped, sith he was freed from a companion, to manifest to the whole world what he could doe in the arte Militarie. And herupon Master *Gualtier* figured the *Spheres* of the foure Elements seperated : with this mot aboue them. *Discretis sua virtus inest*. As much to say, that the *Spheres* in their proper places haue their peculiere vertues, whereunto, notwithstanding, a Philosopher will not yeeld, for that the Element of fire in his own proper sphere doth not burne, but onely when it is mixed with other Elements, but for that it had fayre apparence it went for currant, being set on the banners of of the Trompetters.

This Marquise had also another concerning a matter of loue, inuented by *Antonio Epicuro*, a learned man in the Vniuersitie of *Naples* : The which was the Temple of *Iuno Lacina* figured, borne vp with Pillers, and therein an altar with flaming fire, which with no winds could euer be blowne out, and yet the Temple was on euery side open, all the space betweene the pillers, thereby to signifie to the Lady whome he serued (and who long time had loued him, and now greeued seeing her self, as she thought, abandoned of him, wherein notwithstanding she was deceiued) that the fire of his loue was eternall and vnquerch-

inuenchable, as was that on the altar of *Iunio Lacina*. And the infcription it felfe of the Temple engrauen on the Pillars, ferued in fteade of a mot. *Iunoni Lucina dicatum*. This deuice alfo beares a fayre fhewe, but it requi-
reth fome man of skill to declare the Hiftorie to thofe which knowe it not.

Alfo that *Imprefa* was fomewhat loftie of *Lodonico Gonzaga*, called for his brauery *Rodomanto*, who the fame day that Charles the fifth vifited *Mantua*, wore in his Cote of raced Satin all embrodered with fquares of diuers colours, one represented a Scorpion, and the other this mot. *Qui viuens ledit morte medetur*: being the nature of a Scorpion to cure her venemous infection, being killed & layed to the wounde. Thereby to fignifie that he had flayne him which presumed to offend him, and had cured the hurt of the offence with the death of his enemy.

The fame *Lodonico Gonzaga* had alfo an other *Imprefe* farre better, and it happened vpon this occafion: Being ariued with the Emperours Campe to affalt Rome, betweene the gate *Aurelia*, and *Settimiana*, tooke the Suburbes of *S. Peters*, through the courage of his Souldiers. Whereupon Rome being miferably sacked by Germanes, Spanyards and Italians, which tooke the Emperours parte: he faid, that the Souldier is to haue renowne, as his guerdon, be it good or bad. As if he fhould
say,

A Discourse

say, although the taking of Rome, and the spoyle thereof was abominable to euery good natured Italian, yet notwithstanding did he thinke it would make him famous: and vpon this he had figured the sumptuouse Temple of *Diana Ephesia*, which being burned by one desirous of fame, (not regarding whether it were good or bad) by destroying the most gorgious Monument of the earth: who therefore became so despightfully loathed of the *Grecians*, that they neuer vsed his name, so detestable an act had he committed: his Posie therunto was, *Alterutra clarescere fama*: which I after added, misliking this which he had before, *Sive bonum, sive malum, fama est*.

I composed also another for the Marquise of *Vasto*: who had intelligence that his Souldiers in their tents and lodgings presumptuously talked, saying with great iolitie that the Marquise might well giue the assault to this or that Forte, or skirmish with displayed Ensignes at the first and least occasion, or bende his force against such or such a Castle, pretending them selues to bee very skilfull and of great hardinesse in their loftie wordes, yea, euen reprehending their Captain as one which lay idle. But the Marquise sayd, such men, whē hapned the point of daunger, and neede required to shewe their prowesse, would then keepe quiet both their handes and their tongues, when as he should enter the fiede with sword

of Imprefes.

ſword in hand. And to expreſſe this his conceipt, I depainted him that Mechanicall Inſtrument, which hath many clackes ſet on a wheele, which make a great ratling, and is vſed to bee ſet in ſtead of Belles to call to deuine ſeruice on the holidiaies during the time that it is darke, as commonly is vſed in Italie, at the time of the death of our Sauour, when the Belles are not to be rung, the ſtead whereof the noiſe of this Inſtrument ſupplieth, and truely it beareth a pleaſaunt and phantaſticall ſhewe, hauing this mot, *Cum crepitat, ſonora ſilent*: to meane thereby that when needful occaſion ſhould ſerue, and the Marquiſe with glittering Armour were entering into daungers, theſe pretended venturers would tremble with feare, ſhewing them ſelues uot answerable to their brauery vſed in wordes.

I may not paſſe ouer in ſilence the Eſtendard of the Earle of *Santaſiore*, which he bare in the Battell of *Seruia*, which was poudred with Quinces, being the auncient Armes of *Signior Sforza da Corignola*, by right line his great Grandfather, and amongſt the Quinces was this mot, *Fragrantia durant Herculeæ collecta manu*: to ſignifie that the Quinces gathered by the hande of ſo noble a Captaine, endured yet, yeelding a ſweete odour: alluding to *Hercules*, who gathered the like fruit in the Weſterne gardens *Hesperides*. The field was *Gueles* and the Quinces Or.

An

A Discourse

An amorous Ladie in Italie, who through her incontinent desire and vnſatiabſe appetite, not ſufficed with the fauour of an honorable Lord, who effectuoſly ſerued her, abaſed her body to a youth of meane eſtate and poore parentage, but in the lineaments of his body comely, and of proper perſonage, with whoſe feature ſhe became fettered, & doted ſo much vpon him, that neither counſell could reclayme her, nor ſhame compell her, nor the intire affection of her noble lover reſtrayne her from committing ſacrilege with her honour. The foreſayde Lorde had quickly ſome inkling of this matter, peraduenture by the Lady herſelfe (for *quis bene celauerit ignem*) who by her inconfiderate geſtures and ſemblances vnwarily diſcouered her tranſported loue. Whereupon he with great diſpight contemned her, and willed me to compoſe an *Impreſa* to this effect: That whereas he accounting himſelfe happy, being in the proper poſſeſſion of ſo great a good, and afterward to become copartner with ſo baſe a companion, he thought himſelfe extremely iniured. Wherefore I vpon this, cauſed to bee depainted a triumphall Chariot, with an Emperour therein triumphing, drawen with foure whihte horſes, and a ſlaue ſtanding behind him, holding faſt his crowne of Lawrell vpon his head after the auncient manner of the Romaines, who to temperate the happie fortune

of Imprefes.

fortune and vainglory of the Emperour vsed to haue a slaue to triumphe with him, The posie thereunto was taken of *Iuuenal*. *Seruus curru portatur eodem*. Here the humane forme may seeme tollerable to the scrupulous searcher, being in an extraordinary habite.

Dom. This greatly delighteth me, for that the soule being a verse of *Iuuenal*, geueth it great light, but tell me my Lorde, doe *Cardinals*, with whome you haue bene conuersant, vse to beare *Imprese*.

Ion. Yea in trueth, being worthy Princes, as was the Cardinall *Ascanio Sforza*, who laboured by al possible meanes to creat *Federico Borgia* Pope, which was *Alexāder* the sixth, and it was not long after, but by manifest triall, he found him not onely vngratefull, but also his deadly enimie. In so much, that by the meanes of him and his own unluckie fortune, the Duke *Lodouico Sforza* was dechaced milan by the French men. And without geuing ouer his hatred, he neuer ceased to pursue the famely of the *Sforzi*, vntill they were betraied, put from their estate, and lead prisoners into Fraunce. To this purpose *Ascanio* framed for his *Impresa* the Eclipse of the Sonne, which happeneth by reason of the interposition of the Moone betwixt it and the earth: to inferre, that as the Sonne cannot then shine on the earth, by reason of the iniury and ingratitude of the Moone, hauing

A Discourse

no light of her own, but such as she receiueth from the Sonne, and in the Eclipse she taketh away from her benefactor as most vngratefull, Euen so Pope *Alexander* rewarded a singular good deed with most vile recompence, his mot hereunto was : *Totum adimit quo ingratarefulget.*

Dom. Without doubt this Pope *Alexander* was a terrible and pestilent monster among all the Nobilitie of Italie : but I meruaile the lesse at his ingratitude towards this *Ascanio* (which was for a long time the honor of the Romaine court) for that diuers his successors haue followed his steppes, which may plainly be seene in searching their liues.

Ion. *Hippolito d' Este* Cardinall of *Ferrara*, (Vncle to the last which bare the same name) had for his deuise, a Falcon holding in her talents the counterpoize of a Clocke, as is to bee seene on the Parke gate of the Stewes of *Dioclesian*, but he had thereunto no mot: for he would haue to be vnderstood by deuiding this worde Falcon, that he wrought al his afayres in time, after this maner, *Fal con tempo.* The Falcon with the diamant of the house of *Medicis*, is attainted of the like fault.

And besides this he bare an amorous *Impresa*, which was a Camell on his knees charged with a great burden, with this mot, *Non suefro mas de lo que puedo:* as if he should saie to his Ladie, lay on me no greater torments the

I can

of Impreses.

I can beare: for I will suffer no more then I am able, being the propertie of the Cammell to incline him selfe to the earth of his owne will, to haue his lode layd on him, and when he feeleth that he is burdened sufficiently, beginning to set forward, he signifieth that he can carie no more.

After the death of *Ascanio*, and the Cardinall of *S. George*, there succeeded *Lodouico of Aragon* and *Sigismondo Gonzaga*, who repenting them selues to haue created *Pope Leo*: the one of them, to wit the Cardinall of *Aragon*, wore a white tablet with this mot about it, *Melior fortuna notabit*: and the other, *Gonzaga* bare a *Crocodile*, with this brieft, *Crocodi-
li lachryma*: which is vsed in a Prouerbe, signifying the dissimulation of those, which make faire apparence of amitie, & within beare the venome of hate and ennitie.

The two most famous gallants of the Romaine court, haue been two youthes, the one exceeding the other, *Hippolite of Medicis*, and *Alexander Farnese*. And as for the first, we haue alreadie shewed his *Impresa*, *Inter omnes* of the Comet, and the eclipsed Moone. Now it resteth that we declare those three deuises of *Farnese*: whereof the first was an Arrowe hitting the white of a But, with this Greeke mot, Βαμ' ορυς, as much to say, it beloueth to ayme to the white.

The second was one which I made him, to

A Discourse

satisfie his request: which is to be seene in his rich and stately embrodered Tapistrie: and it hapned vpon this occasion: On a time talking with me he sayd, that at the beginning of his Cardinallshipp he was not resolued what *Impresa* to take, and that I should compose him one, to this effect, that he sayd vnto me: if God did fauour him in his secrete desires, in time would he publishe them with some notable *Impresa*. Whereupon I figured a little scrole of white paper, with this brieue aboue it, *Votis subscribunt fata secundis*.

Lastly, when by *Pope Paulus* the third, he was sent Legat into *Germanie* with the flower of the Italian Cheualrie, to aide the Emperor *Charles* the fift against the Dutch men, which fauoured the doctrine of *Luther*, and rebelled against him, I made for his *Impresa*, the triple forked lightning, the peculiar weapon of *Iupiter*, which he yseth when he will chasten the pride and impietie of men, as he did in the time of the *Giants*, with this mot, *Hoc uno Iupiter vltor*: alluding the excommunications to lightning and the Pope to *Iupiter*. By the 2yd of this supplie, which at the beginning of the warres came very commodiously, *Charles* the Emperour gayned the victorie.

Mons. Andre Gruti, Purueyer for the *Venetians* warres, wherein he was renowned from the beginning to the ende, which warres endured eight yeres, and merited by his courageous

gious valour, to be Prince and Duke of their Commonwealth. At that time by his power was *Padoua* recovered and defended against the forces of *Maximilian*, who had on his side all the Nations of *Europe*: He had a notable *Imprese*, inuented by *Giouan Cattia*, the famous Poet of *Verona*: & it was the heauen with the *Zodiac* and the twelue Signes, borne vpo the shoulders of *Atlas*, kneeling on his left knee, and with his handes embracing the heauens, with a mot there aboue, *Sustinet nec fatiscit*: Albeit the Lord (respecting modestie) would not weare it publicuely, to auoyde enuie, although it greatly pleased him, and was highly commended of euery man. *Atlas* hath a humaine forme, yet is the thing tollerable by reason it is a fiction.

The Lady *Isabella Marquise* of *Mantona*, doth not deserue to be passed ouer in silence, who for her honorable conditions was alwayes esteemed to be of a noble minde, and had sundry times of her life, diuers assaults of fortune, which gaue her occasion to haue more then one *Impresa*, and amongst other, it hapned that for the vnmeasured loue (which her sonne Duke *Federico*, which he bare to a Lady, to whome he did all the fauour and honour he might. Whereby the Lady *Isabella* remained vnhonoured and little esteemed. But the beloued of the Duke vsed to ride very stately thorowe the Citie, accompanied with

A Discourse

a great troupe of gallant gentlemen, which were wont to attend on the Marquise. And at length it came to this, that there remayned to accompany her, but only two or three old gentlemen which neuer would forsake her. Vpon which inconuenience, the sayde Lady caused to be figured this *Impresa*, in the olde Court of her Pallace in the Suburbs, to this purpose: which was a Candellsticke made triangulare wise, whercon are set many Candellsticks for diuine seruice vsed at this day in the holy weeke. From the which Candellstick not without some misterie the priestes vse to take away the Candles one by one, vntil they haue left on the top of all but one, to signifie that the light of fayth cannot perish at all. Vnto the which deuise there wanted a mot, whereupon I added this. *Sufficit unum in tenebris*, according to that of *Virgil*, *Unum pro multis*.

For the Sonne and Heire of the Marquise of *Vasto*, inheritour of the name, and the Estate of the great Marquise of *Piscara*, in who was seene the expresse Image of vertue, struing to attayne to the glorie of his Vncle, & Father, and of his other Ancestors at such time as he went into Spayne to serue King Phillip, I figured a great tree of Lawrell pertayning to the auncient house of the *Anolos*, from the which Lawrell were seene certayne great branches cut of, and among the rest which

of Imprefes.

which remayned, was a straight and gallant twigge springing vp on a great height, with this mot: *Triumphali è stipite surgens alta petit*, which was so much the more congruent to the purpose, for that the Lawrell is dedicated to triumphers.

I will not omit one which I made the last yere for *Sinior Andrea*, the sonne of *Don Ferrante Gonzaga*, who being a youth of great hope and towardnes, hauing gotten to bee Captayne of a band of horsemen, he required of me an *Impresa* for his Standarde: and I aluding to that of *Virgil*, *Parma inglorius alba*, caused to bee depaynted a Shielde or rounde buckler, all fringed about, with foure rounde circles set at foure sides thereof, bound together with foure wreathes of Lawrell. In the first Circle was the Furnace trying golde, the *Impresa* of the *Mraquise Francesco*, (with this mot: *Probaſti me domine*) who was his grandfather by the fathers side: in the second, the mount *Olimpus*, with the Altar of fayth, of Duke *Federico* his vncke: in the third, that of *Andrea Capua* Duke of *Thermopoli* his grandfather by the mothers side, which was the bundle of Dartes, with *Fortibus non deerunt*: in the fourth was the Cattell of his father without a body, with this mot: *nec ſpe, nec metu*, and about his shield in a fiede *Argent* was written this brieſe, *Virtutis trophæa noua non degener addet*: to ſignifie that he would not

A Discourse

take away or detract from his Ancestors, but rather did some notable *Impresa* of his owne.

Dom. Is it possible, my Lord, that the olde Captaynes and auncient Princes vsed no notable inuentio in their *Impresa*? in my iudgement, they (and especially the worthies of *Millan*) for a long time, were loth to leaue their deathes heades, their Barnacle, courry combes and brushes with their posies either fondly composed or too too arrogant.

Ion. It is true, but yet there hath ben some good and currant, as was that of *Galeazo Visconti* which builded the Castle and bridge at *Pania*, a worke worthy the noble minde of a Romaine, he bare a firebrand with a bucket of water, to signifie that he held in his hande both warre and peace, but there wated therevnto a posie. That of the Earle *Colo of Campo Basso*, who liued in the memorie of our Fathers, had both a subiect and a soule. He being in pay with the great Charles of *Bourgonie*, feared not to aduenture the reproch of notable disloyaltie, to be reuenged of a particulare iniury, and it was for some displeasure conceiued against the Duke (a man without measure chollericke) for crossing him in a consultation holden concerning the warres, for the which he bare him deadly hatred, and it so stick in his disdainful stomacke, that vntill the time of reuenge, he could neuer forget it, which fitly was offred him in the battle

of Imprefes.

tle of *Nanfi*, where he gaue aduertisement to *Renato* Duke of *Loren*, that he should not feare to assault the Duke his Lorde with the *Swissers*, for that he with his companie would not once moue to giue ayde, but be as lookers on. Whereby in that conflict the Duke was slayne, and the Earle *Cola* addressed him toward Fraunce, to acquaint him with King Lewes. And his *Impresa* was afterward a great mightie stone of Marble, cleft with the force of a Figge tree springing out of the creuise thereof, which in time creeping and encroching farther into the Marble, spoyleth and defaceth it with weake force and slender violence, and aboue it was this mot taken out of *Martial*, *Ingentia Marmora findit caprificus*. And this *Impresa* was not onely counted gallant in shewe, but also an example for Princes that they ought not in choler to abuse their seruants, especially such as be noble and of stoute courage.

Dom. This reuenge was great, but very ignominious, and not vnlike to that of the Priest *Rinaldo da Modena*, sometimes Steward, and Chamberlaue to the Cardinall of Yorke in England, who hauing receiued besides the iniury of words, certayne blowes of the sayde Cardinall, which he could not well digest, and to be reuenged thereof he gaue him poyson, whereof he died, and afterward confessing his fact, his body was quartered in Rome, in
the

A Discourse

the time of Pope *Leo*. Let this suffice that it is no iesting with me of courage, which esteeme their honour: therefore either dispatch them of life, or neuer meddle with them. For the man receiuing the offence, at the end, for his honour will watch a time to be reuenged.

Some worthie men in their *Impresa* follow the conformitie of their names, or els of their Armes: as did *Matthias Coruin* King of *Hungarie*, who bare a Rauen, a birde in force, witt and viuacitie singulare. Some bare their proper Armes for an *Impresa*, as did *Iohn Schiepusensis* after that he was King of *Hungarie*, being by the ayde and fauour of *Soliman* greate Lord of the Turkes, and through the affectiō of the Nobilitie of his Kingdome, crowned in *Alba*, who bare a Wolfe with her Vdder full strouting, being the Armes of his Father, but he added thereunto a mot, composed verry pithely by *Stephanus Brodericus*, Chauncelor of his Kingdome, which was *Sina aliena, pignora nutrit*: to signifie that he receiued into fauour, such as was his enemies.

I had almost forgotten to tell you the *Impresa* of *Francesco Maria della Rouera* Duke of *Vrbino*, (after that with his owne hands he had flaine the Cardinal of *Paui* in *Rauenna*, in reuēge of the insupportible iniuries receiued of him) which was a Lyon rampant in his proper colour in a fiede *Gueles*, with a sworde in his pawe, with this brieft, *Non deest generoso in pectore*

of Imprefes.

pectore virtus. The like was that which *Pompey* bare, (as *Plutarch* reporteth) and the inuentio was of *Signior Castiglione*, who was present with him at the death of the Cardinal: albeit the Duke would not make great shew of this *Impresa*, to auoyde the enmitie of the Cardinales.

Signior Stephano Colbuna, the magnanimous Generall of the Duke *Cosimo*, had a *Siren*, the auncient Armes of the house of *Colonna*, and requested me being his godfather to adther-vnto a mot, which I did, conformable to his noble minde: and it was this, *Contemnst tuta procellas*: to signifie that he despised aduersitie, trusting to his valour, as the *Siren* in swimming, contemneth all tempestes.

I figured for the Lady Duchesse of *Florence* a *Peahen*, which vnder her wings couered sixe of her yong, three on the one side and three on the other, with this mot, *Cum pudore leta fecunditas*: alluding to the nature of the bird, which therefore is dedicated to *Iuno* the Queene of heauen, according to the opinion of the *Panims*.

Dom. Tell me my Lord, I pray you, sith you haue made, as it were a capitalation of all the noble Princes, Captaines, and Cardinales, are there no other kinde of men which beare *Imprese*?

You. Yes in truth are there, and some of the best learned men: as *Giacopo Sanzaro*, who be-
ing

A Discourse

ing excessiue amorous , and iudging it to bee
for his honour aledged *Bocace* , who greatly
commendeth *Guido Caualcanti*, *Dante*, & Ma-
ster *Cino di Pistoria* , for that they euen to
their extreme age were found to be inamou-
red. Wherefore remaining alwaies, expecting
some recompence in his loue , bare for his
deuise a pot full of little blacke stones , with
one amongst all the rest white, with this mot,
Aquabit nigras candida una dies : meaning,
the day wherein he should bee thought wor-
thie the loue of his Mistrisse, should counter-
uaile all the blacke, clowdie, and vnfortunate
daies of his life. To this was agreable the old
custome of the Auncients, who were wont to
marke the successe of their good and bad ad-
uentures, with little blacke and white stones,
therby to number at the yeres end, of which
they had most , to see to knowe whether that
yere hath bene luckie or vnfortunate. And he
demaunded of me my iudgement of his *Im-
presa* , and I tolde him it was good yet some-
what supernaturall : for that the pots of the
Auncients were wont to be made of earth or
mettaile : wherefore a man could not figure
within any blacke or white stones : for that
these pots were not transparent: to which he
answered , that his was to bee supposed of
grosse glasse , wherein they might bee discern-
ed . And so we passed the time in pleasaunt
iesting about this matter.

Master

of Imprefes.

Master *Lodouico Aristo* inuented a notable *Imprefa*, figuring a Hiue of Bees with their honie, whom the vngratfull peafant doth ftifle with fmoke, bereauiug them of life, to reco- uer their honie and waxe: with this mot, *Pro bono malum*: fignifying therby as it is thought how he had bene ill intreated of a certaine Nobleman, which may alfo bee geffed by his *Satyr*s.

Erasmus Roterodam, borne in *Holland*, fo ex- celled in the giftes of the mynd and fo admi- rable witt, that he furmounted all other the learned of his time, as his infinite works doe plainly teftifie: who for his autoritie in lear- ning, bare for his *Imprefa* the God *Terminus*, being in fignification fomewhat difficult: meaning that he would not giue place to a- ny other Writer, as the God *Terminus* would not yeeld to *Ioue* in the *Capitol*, as wrighteth *Varro*: His Poſie was, *Vel Ioui cedere neſcit*. He had freendly familiaritie with Sir Thomas More of Englande, a man of equall fame in wit, of whom he demaunded what poſie were fit to be ſet on his Studie doore, to whom Sir Thomas More aunſwered, that the Image of *Apelles* paynting fomewhat, would very fitly adorne it: By the which *Erasmus* meruayled what he ment, and he to expreſſe the ſigni- fication ſayd: It well beſeemeth you, for that *Apelles* was wont to ſay, *Nulla dies ſine linea*: which you haue very well obſerued in your
bib writings,

A Discourse

writings, amazing all the worlde with your innumerable volumes.

Moreouer, the worthy learned man *Andreas Alciatus*, had for his deuise the *Caduceum Mercurie*, with the horne of richesse of the Gote *Amalthea* the nource of *Iuppiter*, to signifie; that by the aboundance of learning and knowledge whereof *Mercurie* is sayde to be superintendāt, he had attayned renoume, a worthy reward for his trauayles. But truely this gallant deuise doth want a *Gnome*.

I remember that in my youth being amorous at *Pania*, I was conſtrayned of neceſſitie, for auoyding a greater inconuenience to vnder take a hurtfull departure to ſaue my life, and to ſignifie the neceſſitie which enforced me, I figured the beaſt called a *Bener*, who to eſcape the hands of the hunter, knowing that he is purſued for no other cauſe then for his ſtones which are of great vertue, biteth them off with his teeth as ſayth *Iuuenal*, and leaueth them to the purſuers: with this Greeke mot: *Αναλχι*, as much to ſay *Neceſſitie*, to the which as ſayth *Lucian*, both goods and men obey.

Finally, I made an *Impreſa* at the requeſt of Maſter *Camillo Giordan*, a Lawier, vpon this that he ſaid he was doubtfull in minde, and in ſuſpence to aduenture a certayne enterpriſe: and to be reſolved therein, he attended the aduice and couceill of ſome *Oracle*. And there vpon I figured him the *Egyptian Spinx*, which did

of Imprefes.

did interpret Riddle with abstruse and secret matters, and also that Serpent with his tayle in his mouth, which signifies time, with this *Gnome*: *Incerta animi decreta resoluet.*

Also my Nephew *Julio Iouio* composed him an *Impresa*, wherein he deuised or prophesied to him selfe some happie successe, as his worthy wit replenished with all learning did well deserue, figuring a tree with graftes set thereon with (this Dutch mot): *Wan Got will*, as much to say when God will, this my graffe shall spring and flourish.

Dom. If it were not presumption my Lord, I would shewe you one which I made for my selfe, although *Imprese* are onely fit and convenient for men of greater calling, and not for me.

Iou. And wherefore not for you *Senior Dominico*? tell it me plainly and I will absolue you of all blame of presumption which you may incurre thereby.

Dom. Being then emboldened by your authoritie and fauour I will shewe it you: being desirous to signifie a fantasie of mine, not any way immodest, vpon this that not able to liue in mine owne native country *Piacenza*, in such tranquillitie and quiet of mind as I desired, I chose for my second countrey the flourishing citie of *Florence*, where I hope fortune will prosper me vnder so prudent a Prince, and thereupon I figured a Peache tree loden
with

A Discourse

with fruite, which in the proper soyle where-
in it first springeth yeeldeth forth poysoned
& vnpleasaut increase, but being transplan-
ted in some farther Cost, becommeth whole-
some and fruitfull: and the Posie was, *Transla-
ta proficit arbor.*

You. Signior Dominico, this deuise although
it sauer of subtle inuention, yet doe I mislike
it for two reasons: the one is, for that (as I re-
member) it hath bin deuised already by Ma-
ster *Alciat* in his *Emblems*: the other for that
it is not agreeable to you, in so much you were
not planted venomous, for then could you
not haue brought forth such fruite in your
native soyle as you haue done. Wherefore if
you will be ruled by me, provide you of an o-
ther better becomming you.

Dom. Well my Lorde, sith you haue com-
posed so many for others, vouchsafe me the
faueur of some of your pithie and sharpe in-
uentions: for to say the trueth I am not satis-
fied with mine owne.

You. I will not faile to fulfill your request,
yet not in respect of any recompence, for the
trauailes which you haue vndertaken in tras-
lating my historie, wherein sith you spare no
toyle to attaine to learning, it shall not bee a-
misse that you figure the followe share, which
with long tilling becommeth bright shining
as silver: with this mot, *Longo splendescit in v-
su.* Alluding to your selfe, who with long la-
bour

of Imprefes.

bour haue gotten fingulare learning.

Dom. Truly I willingly labour and will as long as I liue, exercife my felfe in studie, hoping to get fome brightneffe of fhining fame: and herein I fhall immitate your Lordshippe, who with your continuall studie haue made your name immortall: which thing hapneth not to many. But haue you any other notable *Imprefe* to recount vnto me, for loth I am that this fo sweete a banquet should haue fo short an ende.

Iou. Hardly doe I remēber any more, worthie the rehearsing, and I loue not to entrelace the Corral with the Rubie: the Bricke with the Emerauld, or the Beril with the Diamant: and well may these suffice you, considering my age, wherein memorie is wont to suffer some defect.

Dom. Truly I confesse my Lord, you haue done more then your age would well allowe, yet this I say, that he which shall peruse and see what you haue written of this matter, will say you haue reserued many other notable deuises. But herein you may excuse your self, and say as you did in your Booke *de Elogijs*, or the discourse of famous mē, newly published: that albeit there are certaine left out, yet the fault was not yours, in that you had not their true portraitures, but rather theirs who neglected to send them to your studie, to accompanie so many worthie and Heroical persons.

H.i.

As

A Discourse

As of late I met with a certaine Gentleman of the Prouince of *Romagna*, greatly complaining that he could not finde in your *Elogies*, the Knight *della Volpe*, who shewed himself so valiaunt a man in the seruice of *S. Marke*, and for the honor of *Italie*. But I to comfort him said, that I was assured the said Knight would not willingly haue his Picture drawne, being somewhat deformed in visage, hauing lost an eye honorably in fight, and that I would for recompence procure him a place in this tract of *Imprese*: and thereupon I demaunded him whether he had euer borne any. What Sir (saith he) is it not wel knowne he bare a Foxe in his Ensigne shewing his deuouring teeth, with this mot, *Simulastu & dentibus vtor*: to signifie that there was no dealing with him being so defended on euery side.

Iou. In deede the Knight was of great courage and vigilancie, and eskapeth not our historie without great commendation: & thereupon the *Venetians* erected him a goodly stature in their Church of our Ladie.

And now at the last I will not conceale the *Impresa* of *Giouanni Chinchiera*, accompted a famous Knight in Warre, although it maie (like vnto the former) moue the beholders to laugh, which had depainted in his Banner, (to shew his courage and skill in the exercise of light Horse) a fierce Wolfe with a bloodie Lambe betweene his legges, turning his head
backe

of Imprefes.

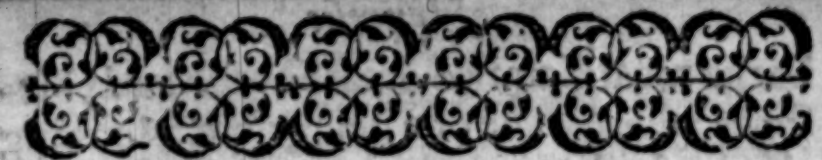
backe regarding two great Sheeheardes Ma-
ftiues, whereof the one being nereft, looking
alfo backe behinde him to fee if the other
dogges came in to succour him, as fearing to
affaile fo terrible an enemye: the mot added
thereunto was, *Pauent oues, Timent canes, in-
trepidus maneo.* But Signior Dominico, the num-
ber of Captaines with their *Imprefe* being fo
great, that it will confound the wittes of the
diligent and laborous writer, I thinke it beft
for this time, to giue an end to our difcourfe.

Dom. Well, fith it is your pleasure, I would
not feeme troublefome vnto you: hoping
that an other time fhall as fitly ferue for our
purpofe.

The ende of the *Imprefe* of
Paulus Iouius.

H.ij.

Here



HERE FOLLOW,

TOUCHING THE FORMER
subiect, certaine notable deuises
both militarie and
amorous,

Collected by Samuel Daniell.



Certaine gentleman of Italie named *Hermet Stampo*, a Prelate, bare for his deuise a *Lawrell* tree menaced with lightning, with this brieft: *Nec sorte, nec fato*, to signifie that his vertue could not be endamaged or anoyed by any fatale chaunce, for lightning(as writeth *Plinie*) hath no powre to hurt the *Lawrell*.

The same *S. Stampo*, being created Marquise of *Soncino*, and hauing married a wife, leauing his Ecclesiasticall habite: represented this deuise: two *Palme* trees, the male and female, which neuer bring forth fruite, vnles they are one planted by the other, adioyning thereunto this mot: *Mutua fecunditas*.

His brother the Earle *Maximian*, being amorous of a Lady named *Anna Morenna*, who afterward was his wife, had for his *Impresa* a silk worme, which only liueth with the leaues
of

of Imprefes.

of the *Mulberie* tree, which tree in *Lombardie* is called *Moronna*, with this mot: *Suol di cio vino*, which is halfe this verse of *Petrarch*: *Suol di cio vino e d'altromi calpeco*. Thus in English: Onely of this I liue disdayning other foode, to shewe that as the little beast doth only liue by those leaues: so he onely contented himselfe to feede on the leaues of his loue, in hope one day to enioy the fruit of legitimate marriage.

The Earle *Baptista di Lodron*, who died at the taking of *Gazal Montferrato*, had for his perticular deuise a Calthrope, a Stratagemical instrument vsed in warre, made with three yron prickes so ioyned, that howsoeuer it be throwen, one prick alwayes standeth vpright, with this Posie thereunto: *In utraq, fortuna*: to signifie that the value and constancie of his noble mynde, in all fortunes yncertainties, remayned firme and vpright.

Gasper de Mayno, a Knight of *Millan*, bare a Stockdoue with a Diamant in her bill, being the nature of this birde neuer to lose any thing it hath once taken, thereby to inferre, that he would neuer giue ouer to loue his Lady, whose vowed seruant he faithfully remayned, whose name was also *Diamante*. His mot was: *In aeternum*.

The *Lisard* of all his properties, hath one most rare and admirable, among the wonderfull and infinite effects of nature, which is, it

A Discourse

is neuer in loue to the which all other beasts doe yeeld, whereupon *S. Federico* Duke of *Mantona*, made him this *Impresa*: The *Lisard* figured, with this mot: *Quod huic deest me torquet*. Meaning thereby that it was the loue of his Lady which tormented him, from the which torments this beast was exempt.

The Earle *Maurucio Pietra*, who afterward was Bishop of *Vigena*, being Student in *Suna*, tooke to his surname *Disarmato*, for that being a souldier, he left the practise of Armes, and tooke him selfe to his studies, whereby he amounted at length to the Pontificall dignitie. He had for his deuise a Snayle, with her head foorth of her shel wounded with an arrowe, & his mot was this verse of *Petrarch*: *Trouommi amor del tutto disarmato*. Thus in English. Loue did me finde vnarmed, quite alluding to his surname, and also to the *Impresa* of that vniuersitie, which was a Snayle put into the fire, which feeling the heate thereof doth scritch, wherevpon the Louewormes, slaues to affections, would inferre that they being all fiered with amorous flames, were constraigned to sing and discharge in languishing verse their sweete sowre passions.

Senior Charlo Ursino, had for his *Impresa* a Ball mounted vp on hye with the stroke of an hardie arme with this mot *Percussus eleanor*, which might be alluded to his inuincible courage, who the more his power was abated
by

of Impreses.

by aduerse fortune, the more he seemed to exalt his vnconquered mind by force of vertue.

A yong gallant of *Salerna*, hauing a long time serued a curteous and beautifull dame, and at length by the fauour of the winged boy cropped both the flower and fruite of his long deferred pleasures, to the extreme contention of ech of them both. But fortune fell to good hap, set her enuious foote in the pleasant plotte of their delights, to fade the sweete fauoring Flowres of their vnconstant ioyes. For this youth roming about the citie, unhappely hapned to fixe both his rouing eyes and flitting fancie on the force of a yong Damosell adorned with infinite beautie, and was so ardently inamored, that he doted vpon her. In which new affection, the heauens seemed so fauourable to further his purpose, that he easely trayned the tender heart of his yeelding Lady to the lure of his loue, as one greatly delighted to liue by exchanging: whereupon (as louers are commonly wont to beare open eares and vncloused eyes, and often to repeate a false tale for trueth) his first fauoured to whome bruted fame had reueyled, the transported affection of the wandering youth, seeing her selfe abandoned, lined desolate, plunged in the deapth of all perplexities, and almost desperate. Yet at the length waighing her case with wisdom, did mode-

A Discourse

rate the griefe of her defaſter, without diſco-
uering to any her ſecret ſorowe, purpoſing
onely to diſcloſe, by ſome couert meane, to
the diſloyall and vngratefull loue, her pen-
ſiue and paſſionate heart. And thereupon ſhe
cauſed a falſe Diamant, to be ſo cunningly ſet
in Gold, that it would eaſely haue deceiued
any man ſaue onely the expert artifiſer, and
within the ring next vnto the finger, ſhe had
made to be engraueſen this mot in *Hebrew*:
Lamazabatani, which done, all diſſolued into
teares ſhe ſent it to her loue, praying him, if
any pittie or pietie remayned in the breaſt of
a periured, to haue compaſſion on her, and
reſtore her his loue. The youth being learned
and diſcreete, that at the firſt ſight he vnder-
ſtoode the *Hebrew* mot, yet could he not
comprehend what ſecret the deuſe (impor-
ted) vntill by chaunce ſhewing his ring to
a friend of his, an excellent gold ſmith, who
told him that the Stone was a counterfeit, he
began to meditate on the miſtery, and loue
hauing opened the eyes of his vnderſtanding,
he ſoone perceiued thereby the lamentable
complaint of the miſerable Lady, and the in-
iury he had done her: reſolving into two
words the mot of the falſe Diamant, in this
ſort: *Diamante falſo*. Adding thereunto her
mot out of the Goſpell, ſignifying why haſt
thou forſaken me. Whereupon the gentle-
man ſorowing his faſt, had compaſſion on
the

Of a falſe Lo-
uer.

of Imprefes.

the desolate dame, placing her againe in the possession of his loue, which she long time after enjoyed.

The Earle *Clemete Pietro* being amorous of a Ladie, enforced for a time to depart frō her, had for his *Impresa* an Elephant, which by nature (as saith *Plinie*) knowing that the Hūters pursue it for no other thing but for his teeth, (which are of admirable vertue) he knocketh them out against a tree: His mot was out of *Petrarch*. *Lasci di me la miglior parte a dietro*. I left behind the better parte of me.

The same Gentleman being also at an other time inamoured of a Gentlewoman named *Laura*, he had for his deuise a Rauē combatting with a Cameleon, who being hurte and inuenomed by his enemie, knowing the wound to bee deadlie, to cure himself taketh the fruite of the Laurel in his mouth: his mot was, *Hinc sola salus*: to signifie that his amorous wound needs no better *Cataplasm*e, then his Ladie *Laura*.

He had also another, being Captaine of the Horsmen in *Picmont*, which was an Egle flying so high against the Sunne that it burned her feathers, with this mot, *Ande aliquid dignum*.

The fourth deuise of this worthie Knight, was a naked sworde hauing this mot, *Ex hoc in hoc*: to shewe how he was to trie by the sworde his iust cause, and the reason he had

A Discourse

to combat with his enemy.

Giouanni Battista Bottigella, an honorable Gentleman desirous to expresse an amorous conceipt, had for his *Impresa* a Ship with hoysed sayle, and the Fishe called in Latin *Remora* holding it fast: which Fishe (as *Plinie* recounteth) is of such great force, that if it take to a Ship, it staieth it and holdeth the same so fast, that neither the furie of windes, nor any other force, is of power to stirre it: His mot was, *Sic frustra*: signifying that euen so it nothing preuailed him to bee faithfull and constant to his Ladie, sith she shewed her selfe rigorous and cruell towards him.

Hippolito Girami a Gentleman of *Millan*, at the warres of *Siena*, in the seruice of the Emperour, bare a sworde figured, with a Serpent twinding about it, hauing a Laurell garland in his mouth, with this posie, *His duobus*. The sword in this place signifying strength and valure of bodie: The Serpent wisdom and vertue of minde.

A certaine Gentleman to signifie that according to his courteous and gentle nature, was willing to please in euery vertuous and reasonable action, but by force, and constraint he was not compelled to do any thing: wherevpon he figured a Palme tree, whose property is sufficiently knowne, with this mot, *Flectimur obsequio non viribus*.

An Italian Ladie named *Linia Tormiella*,
was

of Imprefes:

was in her life most beautifull, & of rare chaſtitie, who to ſignifie the integritie of her worthie mind wholie addicted to vertue, had depainted *Heliotropium* the Marigold, which alwaies turneth towardes the Sunne, as if it had ſence, with this mot, *Vertitur ad ſolem.*

An honorable Gentleman hauing vnfortunatlie married a wife of ſingulare beautie, but (according to the common rumour) of ſingle honeſtie. For all wñch knewe him, verely beleeued that ſhe offered him an extreme iniurie, as in trueth ſhe did. But the poore Gentleman (as commonly it hapneth in the like caſe) perceiuing her vnfaithfull dealing, dronke vp his ſorrowe in ſilence, intreating (notwithstanding) his wife honorablie, in all louely maner: ſuppoſing thereby, for that ſhe ſprāg of noble blood, that ſhe would become faithfull and loyall, reſpecting her honor. But herein he was greatly deceiued: for the diſloyall Dame hauing ſauoured the ſweete of ſondrie diſhes, neglected her olde diet as vnpleaſant to her infatiable appetite, which he to his inſupportable griefe vnderſtanding, to excuſe his hard hap, figured *Argus* with his hundred eyes garding *Io* the Minion of *Iupiter* transformed into a Cowe, who, notwithstanding his diligent watching was deceiued of his chardge: Hereunto he added this mot, *Fruſtra vigilant.*

Girolamo Palauicino, did beare for his Impreſa

A Discourse

presa an Eagle, which according to *Plinie*, only of all Birdes, hath neuer beene slaine with an Arrowe: wherefore he is sayd to carie the weapons of *Iupiter*: hereby to signifie that he had neuer bin stricken with the wrath of the heauens: and although he had bin with great iniurie persecuted, yet was he againe restored to felicitie and honor: his mot was, *Est mihi sorte datum.*

A certaine Gentleman hauing espoused a noble and vertuouse wife, caused her to were for her *Impresa* a Snayle closed in her shell, as she remaineth all the winter, to defende her from the colde, with this Posie, *Proprio alitur succo*: to signifie that she should satisfie her self with the loue of her owne husband, euen as the Snayle is nourished with her owne moisture.

A Dutch Gentleman sojourning at *Naples* the nurse of delicious pleasures, and recourse of all vices, in the blouming flower of his youthfull yeares, being well monied, became amorous of a Dame, with who he spent both his vnreouerable time, and consumed his dearlie gotten treasure, in vaine delights, and vnconstaunt pleasures. But at length conceiuing his error, knowing whether his youth and this abuse would bring him, accepting good counsell retired from *Naples*, to escape the toyles of inticing affections. And to shew his intention he figured a Bucke, couched in a ditch.

a ditch : being the nature of this beast, that after hauing conioyned with the female, doth so lothe himfelfe by reason of the stench of his filthinesse, that he retireth solitarilie into some ditch, wherein he remaineth vntil there happen a great shoure of rayne to washe and make him cleane: and afterward returneth againe to feede : his Posie was, *Lascinia penitentia.*

The Captaine *Consaluo Fernando* in the last warres at *Naples*, performed great exploytes, but rather by pollicie then any great power, whereby he alwaies ouer came in Battell: and desirous to manifest to the worlde, how he was ayded by his subtile practises, tooke for his *Impresa* a Crossebowe bent with a racke, and thereunto this Posie, *Ingeniū superat vires.*

A certaine gentleman after his long and tedious suite, finding the soyle which he tilled altogether fruitles, and the flintie heart of his mistresse to afforde him no fauour, to shewe that his maladie was without remedy, he figured an heart wounded with an arrow, with a branch of the herbe *Dictamus* in his mouth, which herbe groweth plentifully in *Candia*, whereof the wounded Hart eating is said to be cured, with this Spanish mot therevnto. *Esto tiene su remedio y non yo*, As much to say, this beast findeth remedie, and not I: like vnto that, whereas *Phabus* in *Ouid*, complayneth of his loue to *Daphne*, saying:

Hei

A Discourse

Hei mihi quod nullus amor est medicabilis herbis.

Senior Pyrro di Stipiciana, being at the defence of *Carignan* in *Piemont*, valiantly sustained the siege against *Mons. d'Augnien*, and all the French Campe, and (after that the Marquise of *Vasto* was discomfited at *Cersole*, where the Emperours part lost the battayle) he before he would yeeld, although greatly destitute of victuals, held them out fourtie dayes, and at the length, hauing no hope of succour, he was constrained to yeeld, and so departing from *Carignan*, went (according to the othe he had made) vnto the King of France, who greatly honoring his vertue, albeit he was his enemy, made him the proffer of great preferment if he would serue him. But *Senior Pirhus* rendring thanks to his maiestie, refused all conditions and offers made. Afterwarde vpon this he had figured for his *Impresa* the horse of *Iulius Caesar*, who would neuer suffer any other rider, which had (as sayth *Plinie*) his fore feete like vnto the feete of a man, and so was he figured in the temple of *Venus*. His mot was: *Soli Casari*. Faithfull onely to the Emperour.

An amorous gentleman of *Milan* bare in his Standard a Torch figured burning, and turning downeward, whereby the melting wax falling in great abundance, quencheth the flame. With this Posie thereunto. *Quod me alit me extinguit*. Alluding to a Lady, whose
beautie

of Imprefes.

beautie did foster his loue, and whose dis-
dayne did endamage his life.

A noble minded Gentleman (whose
worthy vertues, sith in flowring yeres they
haue purchased the happie fauour of each
mans voyce, little neede the simple *Blazon* of
my rude pensill) hath for his *Impresa* a sworde
with this Greeke mot (*πισως σοι παραμενω*. *Fideliter per-*
Vowing thereby his loyall seruice to his law- *seueto in fide*
full soueraine, perseuering constant and *illi.*
faithfull, followiug the example of
his worthy progenitors, vnder
whose Ensigne both I and
these my simple la-
bours hope to
find
faueur.

FINIS.